## 83-1914 No.

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IN THE

## SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

October Term, 1983

JEFFERSON COUNTY, KENTUCKY, DETECTIVE JONES, LIEUTENANT COLONEL ROEMELE, LIEUTENANT SPELLMAN, DETECTIVE TANGEL, SERGEANT W. HOWARD, and DETECTIVE CHESER,

Petitioners

versus

EARL M. BUCHANAN -

Respondent

On Writ of Certiorari to
The United States Court of Appeals
for the Sixth Circuit

#### PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI

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#### QUESTIONS PRESENTED FOR REVIEW

Section 413.310, Kentucky Revised Statutes ["KRS"] provides: "The time of a confinement of the plaintiff in the penitentiary shall not be counted as part of the period limited for the commencement of an action."

The Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals held in *Buchanan* v. *Jefferson County*, et al., No. 83-5143, Opinion filed 2/14/84, that this state tolling statute must be applied to a prisoner's 42 U.S.C. §1983 claim, which was otherwise untimely filed, under the authority of *Board of Regents* v. *Tomanio*, 446 U.S. 478 (1980). The questions thus presented are:

- 1. Should a state prisoner be entitled to invoke a state tolling statute to cure an otherwise stale claim under 42 U.S.C. §1983 when federal law requires prisoners to have meaningful access to the courts by mandating prisoners be given access to law libraries, forms for filing complaints against public officials, notarial services, postage and writing materials, etc., all at state expense?
- 2. When a prevailing party presents alternate grounds in support of the District Court's judgment, both of which were presented to the lower court, is the Court of Appeals required to dispose of both controlling questions before determining the case?

#### PARTIES TO THE PROCEEDING

All of the parties to the proceeding in the court whose judgment is sought to be reviewed are named in the caption of this Petition as filed in this Court.

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LIEUTENANT COLONEL ROEMELE,
LIEUTENANT SPELLMAN,
LIEUTENANT TANGEL,
SERGEANT W. HOWARD, AND
DETECTIVE CHESER,

Petitioners

v.

EARL M. BUCHANAN

Respondent

# PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE SIXTH CIRCUIT

To the Honorable, the Chief Justice and Associate Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States:

The Petitioners herein respectfully pray that a writ of certiorari issue to review the judgment and opinion of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit entered in this matter on February 14, 1984.

#### OPINIONS BELOW

The February 14, 1984 opinion of the Court of Appeals, whose judgment is herein sought to be reviewed, is unreported and is reprinted in the Appendix to this Petition, pp. 1a-3a. The prior opinion of the United

States District Court for the Western District of Kentucky entered February 11, 1983 is also unreported and is reprinted in the Appendix to this Petition, pp. 4a-6a.

#### JURISDICTION

The judgment of the Court of Appeals was entered February 14, 1984. The jurisdiction of this Court is invoked pursuant to Title 28, United States Code, Section 1254(1).

# CONSTITUTIONAL AND STATUTORY PROVISIONS INVOLVED

This case involves the first section of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which provides as follows:

"All persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, or citizens of the United States and of the state wherein they reside. No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws".

The case also involves Title 42, United States Code, Section 1983, which provides as follows:

"Every person who, under color of any statute, ordinance, regulation, custom, or usage, of any state or territory or the District of Columbia, subjects, or causes to be subjected, any citizen of the United States or other person within the juris-

diction thereof to the deprivation of any rights, privileges, or immunities secured by the Constitution and the laws, shall be liable to the party injured in an action at law, suit in equity, or other proper proceeding for redress. For the purposes of this section, any Act of Congress applicable exclusively to the District of Columbia shall be considered to be a statute of the District of Columbia.

The case also involves Title 42, United States Code, Section 1988 which provides as follows:

"The jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters conferred on the district courts by the provisions of this Title, and of Title "Civil Rights," and of title "Crimes," for the protection of all persons in the United States and their civil rights, and for their vindication, shall be exercised and enforced in conformity with the laws of the United States, so far as such laws are suitable to carry the same into effect; but in all cases where they are not adapted to the object, or are deficient in the provisions necessary to furnish suitable remedies and punish offenses against law, the common law, as modified and changed by the constitution and statutes of the State wherein the court having jurisdiction of such civil or criminal causes is held. so far as the same is not inconsistent with the Constitution and laws of the United States, shall be extended to and govern the said courts in the trial and disposition of the cauce, and, if it is of a criminal nature, in the infliction of punishment on the party found guilty. In any action or proceeding to enforce a provision of Sections 1977. 1978, 1979, 1980, and 1981 of the Revised Statutes [42 U.S.C. §§1981-1983, 1985, 1986], title IX of

Public Law 92-318 [20 U.S.C. §§1681, et seq.], or title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 [42 U.S.C. §§2000d et seq.], the court, in its discretion, may allow the prevailing party, other than the United States, a reasonable attorney's fee as part of the costs".

The case also involves Section 413.140(1)(c), Kentucky Revised Statutes which provides as follows:

- "(1) The following action(s) shall be commenced within one (1) year after the cause of action accrued:
- "(c) an action for malicious prosecution, conspiracy, arrest, reduction, criminal conversation or breach of promise of marriage".

The case also involves Section 413.310, Kentucky Revised Statutes which provides as follows:

"The time of confinement of the plaintiff in the penitentiary shall not be counted as part of the period limited for the commencement of an action".

#### STATEMENT OF THE CASE

This is a civil rights action originally brought by Earl M. Buchanan, a prisoner at the Eddyville State Penitentiary, Eddyville, Kentucky, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §1983 and 28 U.S.C. §1343. On September 29, 1982 Plaintiff filed his complaint, pro se and in forma pauperis against the Defendants, alleging false arrest and malicious prosecution. Plaintiff's Complaint was submitted in a form apparently provided by the penitentiary. On October 19, 1982, Chief United States

Magistrate, George J. Long, entered an Order that the Complaint be filed and granted leave for the Plaintiff to proceed in forma pauperis. The case was assigned to the Honorable Charles M. Allen, Chief Judge, United States District Court for the Western District of Kentucky at Louisville.

In his pro se complaint the Plaintiff alleged that he was taken into custody without probable cause on January 14, 1981, by officers of the Jefferson County, Kentucky, Police Department, during the execution of an arrest warrant for plaintiff's brother, Calvin Buchanan, and the concomitant execution of a search warrant for premises located at 3703 West Kentucky Street, Louisville, Kentucky.

The underlying information contained in these warrants was obtained from one Kevin Stanford, a 17 year old male, who had confessed to the murder of Baerbell C. Poore, a Checker gas station attendant. Poore was found dead in the backseat of her car on January 8, 1981 after she had been abducted during the robbery of the Checker gas station Poore had been sodomized and shot twice in the head. Stanford implicated Calvin Buchanan as a co-perpetrator of the crime and also stated that a weapon used in the crime was a sawed-off shotgun which was the property of a person known as "Doc" who lived with Calvin Buchanan at the West Kentucky Street address. Further, Stanford also implicated Earl Buchanan, the Plaintiff in the instant matter, as a participant in a robbery of a "Short Stop Food Mart" at Louisville on December 24, 1980. A shotgun was used in the Short Stop robbery which also fit the description of the weapon named in the search warrant.

The Stanford information gained by the police from Stanford was incorporated in an affidavit and presented to Jefferson County, Kentucky District Court Judge Ken Corey on January 14, 1981. Judge Corey issued both a search warrant for the 3703 West Kentucky Street premises and an arrest warrant for Calvin C. Buchanan.

Numerous factors supplied the requisite probable cause for Earl Buchanan's arrest. First, the sawed-off shotgun identified in the search warrant was found at the West Kentucky Street location. Second, Stanford had implicated Earl Buchanan in the robbery of the Short Stop Food Mart. Third, Earl Buchanan fit a description given by at least one witness to the Short Stop robbery. Fourth, Earl Buchanan's sister, Colleen Brookins, lived in the apartments behind the Short Stop Food Mart, the very same direction in which the robbers had reportedly fled. All of this information was within the knowledge of the arresting officers on the night of January 14, 1981 (App. 22a-33a, Affidavits of Tangel and Cheser).

Earl Buchanan was read his rights, taken to Police Headquarters, handcuffed to a chair and kept in a room by himself at the Police Headquarters. An opportunity was provided to telephone his counsel, which he did, and to use the restroom facilities. Seven lineups were then conducted by the police, during which Mr. Buchanan was represented by Jefferson District Public Defender, Raymond Clooney. During the lineups, a

witness to the Short Stop robbery positively identified Earl Buchanan as one of the participants in the robbery and signed a statement to that effect (App. 30a, Affidavit of Cheser).

Earl Buchanan was then formally charged with the Short Stop robbery and placed in the custody of the Louisville and Jefferson County Metropolitan Corrections Department. Subsequently on March 4, 1981, a Grand Jury indictment for the Short Stop robbery was handed down against Earl Buchanan. Assistant Commonwealth Attorney, William C. Grimes, handled the case for the Commonwealth (App. 35a, Affidavit of Grimes).

Eventually the Short Stop robbery charges were dismissed, based upon a prosecutorial decision, under the following circumstances:

Earl Buchanan was convicted on another outstanding unrelated felony indictment on June 11, 1981, and sentenced to the Eddyville, Kentucky State Penitentiary as a persistent felony offender. The case against Earl Buchanan involving the Short Stop robbery was dropped by the Commonwealth on June 24, 1981, the date originally set for the trial, because Prosecutor Grimes concluded that such action was in the interest of judicial economy in light of Plaintiff's then recent conviction on the persistent felony offense for which he was sentenced to 20 years in the penitentiary. Further, Mr. Grimes believes that the identification of Plaintiff by the witnesses was impeachable since two earlier suspects had also been identified by the same witnesses (App. 35a-41a, Grimes Affidavit).

All of the foregoing facts and information surrounding the arrest and prosecution of Earl Buchanan were contained in affidavits filed in the District Court civil rights case with a motion for summary judgment on behalf of Defendants below [Petitioners here], with a memorandum in support thereof on January 12, 1983 (App. 7a-41a). The Defendants asserted two separate grounds for summary judgment in the District Court. First, Defendants argued that the complaint was not filed within the applicable period of limitations for false arrest and malicious prosecution, KRS 413.-140(1)(c) which provides for a one year period within which to file such actions. Second, that based upon the affidavits of the Defendants and others, the search warrant, and the arrest warrant, and the subsequent Grand Jury indictment, it was demonstrated beyond plausible doubt, and as a matter of law, that the Petitioner had probable cause to arrest Earl Buchanan.

On February 7, 1983, in the District Court Earl Buchanan filed a response to Petitioner's motion for summary judgment which did not include any rebutting affidavits. Thereafter, by Memorandum Opinion and Order dated February 11, 1983, the District Court granted summary judgment to Petitioners based upon the failure of Earl Buchanan to file his action within the applicable period of limitation. The District Court also stated, "[B]ecause the statute had run well before the filing of the Complaint, we need not consider the issue of probable cause." (App. 5a, Memorandum Opinion of District Court, p. 1, dated 2/11/83.)

On February 24, 1983 Buchanan appealed the District Court dismissal to the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit. After the case had been briefed, but before oral argument, on February 14, 1984, the Court of Appeals issued an Order reversing the District Court's Judgment (App. 1a-3a). Again, the judgment of the Court of Appeals was based solely on the issue of limitations, and did not address the probable cause and good faith issues which that Court had been requested to consider.

#### REASONS FOR GRANTING THE WRIT

The judgment of the Court of Appeals in this case directly conflicts with the Opinion of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in *Major* v. *Arizona State Prison*, 642 F. 2d 311 (9th Cir. 1981), holding that a prisoner's Section 1983 action was barred by a state statute of limitation despite a savings provision similar in nature to the statute in question here. The Court of Appeals in this case has therefore rendered a decision in conflict with the decision of another federal court of appeals as to the same matter.

Further, Petitioners respectfully submit that the Court of Appeals in this case has misconstrued the application of Board of Regents v. Tomanio, 446 U.S. 478 (1978), in that its judgment reflects an interpretation of Tomanio which requires blanket application of state tolling statutes without regard to a determination of whether ". . . the state law is inconsistent with the Constitution and laws of the United States." Id. at p. 485. The Court of Appeals failed to examine the

applicable Kentucky statute at issue here, in light of its probable inconsistency with prevailing federal law, before invoking its application to Petitioner's cause.

As an additional reason for granting the Writ in this case, Petitioners respectfully assert that the Court of Appeals significantly departed from the accepted and usual course of judicial proceeding by failing to examine Petitioners' other bases in support of the District Court's Judgment dismissing Buchanan's complaint. It is a well settled matter of law that a prevailing party may assert in the appellate court any ground in support of a judgment, whether the lower court relied upon such ground or even considered it. Dandridge v. Williams, 397 U.S. 471 (1970), Jaffke v. Dunham, 352 U.S. 280 (1957). Even the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals recognized as early as 1939 that ". . . a judgment must be affirmed if right for any reason, however erroneous the reasons leading to it may American Eagle Fire Insurance Company v. be." Gayle, 108 F. 2d 116, 117 (6th Cir., 1939).

Based on the foregoing, it appears that the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals "has rendered a decision in conflict with the decision of another Federal Court of Appeals on the same matter . . . or has so far departed from the accepted and usual course of judicial proceedings . . . as to call for an exercise of this Court's power of supervision." Rule 17.1(a), Rules of the Supreme Court of the United States.

#### I. KRS 413.310 Is Inconsistent with the Policy of Deterrence Inherent in 42 U.S.C. §1983.

In Board of Regents v. Tomanio, supra, this Court held that state statutes of limitation and corresponding tolling rules are to be applied in actions brought under 42 U.S.C. §1983 except where such statutes are inconsistent with federal law. In Tomanio, this Court considered the question of whether Tomanio's action challenging the alleged unconstitutional denial of her application for waiver of a chiropractic licensing examination was barred by a New York statute of limitations. Upon review, this Court could find nothing in New York law which would toll an otherwise applicable statute of limitations. Thus, this Court held that the New York tolling provisions did not save Tomanio's federal action; and that such a conclusion was not inconsistent with the provisions of 42 U.S.C. §1983.

In the case here, Petitioners present the converse of the situation which attended in *Tomanio*. Here, the Kentucky statute, KRS 413.310 tolls the running of a statute of limitation for the period during which a prisoner is confined to a state penitentiary. Petitioners assert that such a tolling provision is inconsistent with federal law.

As Tomanio noted, the authority for a federal court to disregard an otherwise applicable state rule of law for inconsistency with federal law is found in 42 U.S.C. §1988. Tomanio also recognized several principal policies embodied in §1983 which should be examined to determine whether an otherwise applicable state rule of law is inconsistent with federal law. The policies

specifically mentioned in *Tomanio* are deterrence, compensation, and uniformity; *Tomanio*, *supra*, at pp. 488-489. It is apparent that the Kentucky tolling statute in question here, KRS 413.310, is inconsistent with the policies of deterrence and uniformity.

Rhetorically stated, how can the policy of deterrence be effectively implemented if a prisoner is permitted to slumber on his rights during a long period of incarceration? Obviously, it is much preferrable to litigate alleged violations at a point in time when the evidence and testimony relative to a claim are fresh and easily accessible. This is the precise reason that statutes of limitations exists because, as *Tomanio* held:

". . . there comes a point at which the delay of a plaintiff in asserting a claim is sufficiently likely either to impair the accuracy of the fact-finding process or to upset settled expectations that a substantive claim will be barred without respect to whether it is meritorious." Tomanio, supra at 487.

Naturally, the argument can be made that KRS 413.310, which dates back to 1873, was enacted to permit prisoners to pursue civil actions that may have arisen prior to the time or during the time of their incarceration when they ordinarily have limited access to civil courts. However, due mainly to this Court's decision in *Bounds* v. *Smith*, et al., 430 U.S. 817 (1977), this statute is not only an anachronism as it relates to federal actions under 42 U.S.C. §1983 but, it is directly contrary to federal law.

Bounds, supra, laid to rest any question that state authorities could inhibit inmates' access to federal courts and, indeed, provided prisoners with a plethora of rights which had to be provided at state expense. Specifically, Bounds held:

"We hold, therefore, that the fundamental constitutional right of access to the courts requires prison authorities to assist inmates in the preparation and filing of meaningful legal papers by providing prisoners with adequate law libraries or adequate assistance from persons trained in the law." *Id.*, at 828.

This Court further noted that inmates must be provided with fundamental tools such as paper and pen to draft legal documents; must be provided free notarial services to authenticate the documents; must be provided with necessary postage to mail documents; and that docket fees must be waived and transcripts provided, all at state expense. *Id.*, at 825.

Bounds also suggested alternative forms of implementing "meaningful access to the courts" as follows:

"Among the alternatives are the training of inmates as paralegal assistants to work under lawyers' supervision, the use of paraprofessionals, and law students, either as volunteers or in formal clinical programs, the organization of volunteer attorneys through bar associations or other groups, the hiring of lawyers on a part-time consultant basis, and the use of full-time staff attorneys, working either in new prison legal assistant organizations or as part of public defender or legal services offices." *Id.*, at 831. In light of the total range of assistance required by Bounds designed to insure meaningful access to the courts by prisoners, it is inconceivable that KRS 413.-310, comports with the deterrance policy inherent in 42 U.S.C. §1983. Deterrence simply cannot be accomplished if prisoners are permitted to hide behind an antiquated and anachronistic tolling provision which has no effective place under the present standard of "meaningful access to the courts" set forth in Bounds, supra.

The argument that KRS 413.310 is inconsistent with the policy of deterrence embodied in 42 U.S.C. §1983 can be demonstrated by examining a Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals case, Kirby v. Thomas, 336 F. 2d 462 (6th Cir., 1964), which would be controlled by Bounds, supra, if decided today. In Kirby, the Sixth Circuit upheld a Kentucky statute prohibiting an inmate in a state penal institution from mailing or otherwise sending out legal papers or documents, other than habeas corpus or corum nobis proceedings. The Kirby court found no constitutional violations and noted:

"Enforcement of the regulation preventing the filing of ordinary civil actions by prisoners which do not relate to their personal liberty is a matter of prison discipline and is not in violation of any constitutional restrictions." Kirby, supra, at p. 463.

Further, the Sixth Circuit in Kirby specifically noted that KRS 413.310 would preserve a prisoner's civil action until such time as he is released from imprisonment. *Id.*, at 464. Naturally, under the present

law as set forth in *Bounds*, *supra*, a prisoner would have an absolute right to not only file a suit pro se, but would be provided a law library, form pleadings to assist him, at least paralegal type assistance in drafting his complaint, postage to mail the complaint, access to the federal court without prepayment of a filing fee, and whatever writing materials he might need to research and prepare his case.

But, if such a situation as attended in Kirby were to arise in the Kentucky penal system today, nothing would prevent the affected prisoner or prisoners from waiting until release to file a civil rights action because, as specifically noted in Kirby, the tolling provisions of KRS 413.310 would save the cause of action. No deterrence of such unconstitutional activity by prison authorities would be effected because during the period of incarceration, while the prisoners chose to slumber on their rights, the authorities could continue their unconstitutional conduct, possibly for years. Obviously, the deterrence policy behind 42 U.S.C. §1983 is frustrated if prisoners are permitted to invoke a tolling statute in the nature of KRS 413.310 even though Bounds, supra, totally remedies any inhibiting factors which might otherwise prevent the filing of a suit under 42 U.S.C. 61983.

Thus, any disability due to imprisonment which could have been argued prior to Bounds, supra, no longer exists. In fact, Bounds has created a separate federal right of access to the civil courts specifically for prisoners, a right not generally available to non-incarcerated indigents. It is apparent that an indigent

person, possibly a vagrant, could be treated in a blatantly unconstitutional manner by authorities, say by the use of unusual force not incident to arrest, but who obviously doesn't have the readily accessible assistance available to him under Bounds. Such a person may not be aware of the legal services system available to him; he may not know where a law library is located; he certainly cannot afford a private attorney; probably has no idea where the federal courthouse is located; has no form pleading provided to him as a matter of right; and most likely can't even afford to buy writing materials to lodge a protest with the proper authorities, even if he knows who they are. Yet, all of these critical areas of assistance are provided to convicted prisoners to insure their rights to meaningful access to the courts. Bounds has guaranteed that if one is both indigent and a convicted felon, every effort will be made to assist him with every conceivable civil cause of action; but, if a mere indigent suffers a constitutional deprivation action under §1983 and neglects to have himself convicted and jailed, he will be left to his own resources, rather than the state's, to figure out what he should do.

Earl Buchanan's situation presents the quintessential example of how sophisticated and well schooled prisoners have become in presenting civil rights litigation. Earl Buchanan has assisted his brother, Calvin Buchanan, in the pursuit of a 42 U.S.C. §1983 claim as to the identical search and arrest warrants in question here, Buchanan v. Helm, et al., U. S. District Court for the Western District of Kentucky, No. C-83-0913-L(B). Earl Buchanan is certainly far from inex-

perienced or naive about the legal system and has even styled himself as a "legal aide" on his brother's pleadings. Without doubt this court's *Bounds* decision is being scrupulously adhered to by the Kentucky penal system.

#### II. KRS 413.310 Is Also Violative of the Policy of Uniformity Inherent in §1983.

As earlier stated, KRS 413.310 also violates the policy of uniformity inherent in 42 U.S.C. §1983. Admittedly, *Tomanio* did not view uniformity as so paramount as to, alone, displace state statutes of limitations but neither did *Tomanio* totally reject uniformity as a critical policy of U.S.C. §1983. As will be shown, uniformity of application has been trouble-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The Buchanan brothers, Earl and Calvin, have a rather extensive history as to the search and arrest warrants in question here. Initially, Calvin Buchanan filed suit alleging false arrest and malicious prosecution in which these same defendants were granted summary judgment by the same U. S. District Court and Judge, the Honorable Charles M. Allen. Subsequently, Judge Allen's decision was affirmed by the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals which held that the warrants in question supplied probable cause to arrest Calvin Buchanan, Buchanan v. Jefferson County, et al., Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals No. 82-5131, Order entered May 24, 1982 [unpublished but noted at 703 F. 2d 559 (6th Cir. 1982)]. Calvin Buchanan then applied to this Court for a Petition for Writ of Certiorari which was denied. Earl Buchanan then filed suit on the same search warrant and arrest warrant which has resulted in the instant case. Finally, after having his Petition for Writ of Certiorari denied, Calvin Buchanan, assisted by Earl, again filed suit in U. S. District Court, Buchanan v. Jefferson County, C-83-0913-L(B), alleging the identical cause of action raised in his previous suit, U. S. District Judge Thomas Ballantine, Jr. dismissed that complaint on the basis of res judicata. Judge Ballantine also awarded attorney's fees against Calvin Buchanan which have gone uncollected to date.

some for both the Sixth and Ninth Circuit Courts of Appeals.

In Major v. Arizona State Prison, 642 F. 2d 311 (9th Cir. 1981), a decision rendered subsequent to Tomanio, the Ninth Circuit held that a tolling provision similar to the one at issue in this case would not be applied to preserve a prisoner's 42 U.S.C. §1983 cause of action. An interesting aspect to Major is that the Ninth Circuit had applied a very similar California tolling provision to preserve §1983 actions of California inmates, see May v. Enomoto, 633 F. 2d 164 (9th Cir. 1980).

Similarly, the Sixth Circuit has apparently been less than consistent in the uniform application of state tolling provisions. The Sixth Circuit in this case applied Kentucky's tolling provision even though a U.S. District Court in Michigan had refused to apply the Michigan savings provision in the case of Campbell v. Guy, 520 F. Supp. 53 (S.D., Mich., 1981), another case subsequent to Tomanio. The Campbell opinion noted:

"Incarceration, in many instances, is a disability to the commencement of legal action which properly tolls the running of a statute of limitation due to lack of free access to the courts. However, it begs reason to suggest that incarceration per se is a disability as to causes of action which have been brought pursuant to 42 U.S.C. §1983. The prosecution of meritorious claims by prisoners in the §1983 context attest to the fact that, in many instances, the federal judicial system has cured

the historic disability which incarceration engendered."

Id. at 55.

It is evident that the Sixth Circuit and the Ninth Circuit are in direct conflict as to their construction and application of similar tolling provisions. Further, the Ninth Circuit has apparently ruled both ways on similar tolling provisions for prisoners from two different states within its Circuit. Finally, prior to the Sixth Circuit's decision in this case, a U. S. District Court within the Sixth Circuit refused to apply a similar tolling provision for prisoners to preserve a \$1983 cause of action. While Tomanio noted that nationwide uniformity in areas of civil rights may not be possible, Tomanio, supra at p. 489, the case did not imply that chaos should rule as appears to be the situation at least in the Sixth and Ninth Circuits.

Based on the foregoing arguments, Petitioners believe this court must determine whether state tolling provisions similar to KRS 413.310 are contrary to federal law in that they seriously interfere with the policies of deterrence and uniformity inherent in the remedial scheme of 42 U.S.C. §1983.

#### III. The Court of Appeals Erred by Failing to Examine Petitioner's Other Bases for Affirming the District Court's Judgment.

Petitioners also seek a Writ of Certiorari on the basis the Sixth Circuit significantly departed from the accepted and usual course of judicial proceedings by failing to examine Petitioner's other basis for affirming the District Court Judgment dismissing Earl Buchanan's civil complaint.

Aside from the statute of limitations argument, the Petitioners asserted that the arrest of Earl Buchanan was, as a matter of law, effected with probable cause. In that regard, the Petitioners submitted extensive affidavits and documents in support of their motion for summary judgment in the District Court, patently demonstrating that probable cause existed to arrest Earl Buchanan as a matter of law (App. 7a-41a). It is significant to note that Buchanan failed to submit any rebutting affidavits or documents in his response to Petitioner's motion for summary judgment in the District Court. The District Court dismissed Buchanan's claim on statute of limitations grounds without addressing Petitioner's probable cause argument.

In the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals, the Petitioners again presented the probable cause argument framed both in the context of applicable law as well as the good faith standard set forth in Harlow v. Fitzgerald, 457 U. S. 800 (1982). As in the District Court, this argument was neither overlooked or ignored by the Sixth Circuit and not even mentioned in its opinion. It is beyond cavil that a prevailing party may assert in the appellate court any ground in support of a judgment below, whether the lower court relied upon such ground, or even considered it. Dandridge v. Williams, 397 U. S. 471 (1970), Jaffke v. Dunham, 352 U. S. 280 (1957). Further, the Sixth Circuit Court ignored its own precedent in this area, recognized as early as 1939, that ". . . a judgment must be

affirmed if right for any reason however erroneous the reasons leading to it may be." American Eagle Fire Insurance Company v. Gayle, 108 F. 2d 116, 117 (6th Cir. 1939).

Based on the foregoing well settled and undisputed case law, the Defendants were absolutely entitled to have the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals at least examine Petitioner's probable cause argument to determine the sufficiency thereof with reference to the summary judgment granted by the District Court. This is especially true in light of the fact the Sixth Circuit had already examined, and upheld the sufficiency of the identical search and arrest warrants in connection with the arrest of Calvin Buchanan in the case of Buchanan v. Jefferson County, et al., Sixth Circuit No. 82-5131, Order dated 5/24/82 [unpublished but noted at 703 F. 2d 559 (6th Cir. 1982)]. In that case, the Sixth Circuit held:

"Upon review of the record and the affidavits submitted by the defendants in support of their motion for summary judgment, this court finds the District Court did not err in finding the arrest warrant supported by probable cause. (Citations omitted) Id. at p. 3.

Petitioners have included in the Appendix the affidavits of two of the Petitioners and Assistant Commonwealth Attorney Grimes. As a part of those affidavits, certain exhibits were attached which included an eyewitness identification form, the indictment of Earl Buchanan, and the search and arrest warrants in question. Although the argument of probable cause as a matter of law and/or the good faith of the officers involved was ignored both at the District Court and the Sixth Circuit levels, it is patent that the documents included in the Appendix required summary judgment at the District Court level and affirmance in the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals. This is especially true since the Plaintiff filed no rebutting affidavits or documents to counter the truth and accuracy of the matters contained in the affidavit and documents filed by Petitioners.

In Gerstein v. Pugh, 420 U. S. 103 (1975), this court defined probable cause for arrest as follows:

The standard for arrest is probable cause, defined in terms of facts and circumstances "sufficient to warrant a prudent man in believing that the [suspect] had committed or was committing an offense." (Citations omitted) *Id.* at p. 111.

The facts and circumstances on the morning of January 14, 1981, were clearly sufficient to establish, as a matter of law, probable cause to arrest Earl Buchanan. The police officers involved had personal knowledge relating to the so-called Short Stop robbery and the confession of Kevin Stanford implicating Earl Buchanan in the Short Stop crime. Among the facts the police officers knew or ascertained at the scene of the arrest are as follows: Earl Buchanan fit the description of a suspect in the Short Stop Food Mart robbery on December 24, 1980; a sawed-off shotgun matching the description of the one allegedly used in the Short Stop Food Mart robbery (also allegedly used in the Checker Service Station robbery as set forth in the search war-

rant) was found at the residence where Earl and Calvin Buchanan were sleeping; and, Earl Buchanan's sister lived in the apartments behind the Short Stop Food Mart, in the same direction the robbers reportedly fled. In addition, the police officers had good reason to believe Earl Buchanan would flee if not immediately taken into custody.

Thus, substantial and trustworthy evidence revealed that a violation of the law had been committed and it was more likely than not that the person to be arrested, Earl Buchanan, had committed the violation. As a matter of law, probable cause existed to arrest Earl Buchanan.

Obviously, the facts and circumstances known to the officers were sufficient to give rise to probable cause to arrest Earl Buchanan under prevailing law as succinctly set forth by Chief Justice Burger, then Circuit Judge Burger, in *Smith* v. U. S., 358 F. 2d 833, 837 (1966), cert. denied, 386 U. S. 1008 (1967):

"Probable cause is the sum total of layers of information in the synthesis of what the police have heard, what they know and what they observed as trained officers. We weigh not individual layers but the 'laminated' total."

While maximum protection of individual rights would be assured by obtaining a warrant in all situations prior to an arrest, this Court has recognized that ". . . such a requirement would constitute an intolerable handicap for legitimate law enforcement." Gerstein v. Pugh, supra, at 113. Gerstein, supra, went on to establish a "practical compromise" where a "police-

man's on-the-scene assessment of probable cause provides legal justification for arresting a person suspected of a crime, and for a brief period of detention to take the administrative steps incident to arrest." *Id.* at 113-114.

It is crucial to note in the instant case that the facts supporting the arrest of Earl Buchanan were eventually placed before the Grand Jury which indicted him on March 4, 1981. The independent decision to indict by the Grand Jury can be viewed as nothing less than an endorsement of probable cause, relieving the arresting officers of any possible liability for false arrest or malicious prosecution.

Because federal courts are compelled to apply state law to determine the elements of the common law tort most closely analogous to the cause of action alleged by a §1983 complainant, it is important to note that it has been established in Kentucky for over 150 years that the finding of an indictment against the accused by the Grand Jury is prima facie or presumptive evidence of probable cause for the criminal prosecution. Garrard v. Willet, (4 J.J. Marsh), 27 Ky. 628 (1830).

Consistent with the argument on probable cause, the defense of good faith was also asserted in the Sixth Circuit. In *Pierson* v. *Ray*, 386 U. S. 547 (1967), this court stated:

"Under the prevailing view in this country a peace officer who arrests someone with probable cause is not liable for false arrest simply because the innocence of the suspect was later proved (Citations omitted). A policeman's lot is not so un-

happy that he must choose between being charged with dereliction of duty if he does not arrest when he has probable cause and being mulcted in damages if he does." *Id.* at 555.

More recently, in *Harlow* v. *Fitzgerald*, 457 U. S. 800 (1982), this court clearly set forth an objective test to be used to determine good faith and noted:

"Reliance on objective reasonableness of an officials 'conduct', as measured by reference to clearly established law, should avoid excessive disruption of government and permit the resolution of many insubstantial claims on summary judgment." (emphasis added) Id. at 818.

The Harlow test focused on implication of clearly established rights so as to prevent unconstitutional acts of an official, yet preserve the public interest in permitting officials to act independently and without fear of undue consequences. In the case here, the Petitioners were faced with a situation in which they believed in good faith that probable cause existed for the arrest of Earl Buchanan. The subsequent indictment of Buchanan for the so-called Short Stop robbery conclusively demonstrated their actions were warranted and did not implicate any violation of "clearly established right." Therefore, the acts of Petitioners in arresting Earl Buchanan were of the type to be protected by the standards set forth in Harlow so that police officers can properly act in the public interest ". . . with independence and without fear of consequences." Id. at 819.

Even though the District Court and the Court of Appeals failed to decide the probable cause issue, it is clear that the Petitioners had probable cause as a matter of law to arrest Earl Buchanan; and most importantly, that they acted in good faith in effecting the arrest and subsequent prosecution.

When the probable cause issue was argued to the Court of Appeals in support of the District Court's dismissal of Buchanan's action, as permitted under Dandridge v. Williams, supra, and Jaffke v. Dunham, supra, the Court of Appeals was required to decide its merits. If the Petitioners were entitled to summary judgment based on the probable cause issue, by its own precedent, the Court of Appeals was required to affirm the District Court dismissal of Plaintiff's actions "... if right for any reason however erroneous the reasons leading to it may be." American Eagle Fire Insurance Company v. Gayle, supra.

#### CONCLUSION

For all the reasons, and upon the authorities cited and argued in this, their Petition, the Petitioners respectfully pray that a writ of certiorari be granted.

May 11, 1984.

hidi T. Warm

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#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, William T. Warner, a member of the Bar of this Court, representing the Petitioners herein, hereby certify that I have, this day of May, 1984, served the foregoing Petition for Writ of Certiorari pursuant to Rule 28.3 of this Court upon all parties required to be served, to wit: Earl M. Buchanan, by depositing three (3) copies of the said Petition in a United States mailbox, with first-class postage prepaid, addressed to Earl M. Buchanan at his address, Kentucky State Penitentiary, Box 128, Eddyville, Kentucky 42038.

WILLIAM T. WARNER



### No. 83-5143

### UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

### FOR THE SIXTH CIRCUIT

EARL MILES BUCHANAN - - - Plaintiff-Appellant

v.

COUNTY OF JEFFERSON;
MITCH MCCONNELL;
DETECTIVE JONES;
CHIEF EDGAR HELM;
LT. COL. ROEMELE;
LT. SPELLMAN;
DET. TANGEL;
SGT. W. HOWARD;
DET. HALL;
DET. CHESER

Defendants-Appellees

### ORDER-Filed February 14, 1984

Before: Lively, Chief Circuit Judge; Edwards, Circuit Judge; and Taylor, District Judge.\*

This pro se plaintiff appeals from a district court judgment dismissing his civil rights complaint filed under 42 U.S.C. §1983. Plaintiff sought monetary damages from a judge, a county police department and several of its officers for allegedly having falsely arrested him on January 14, 1981. The district court dismissed the complaint as being time-barred under Kentucky's one year statute of limitations for bringing claims of false arrest and malicious prosecution. The complaint was filed on October 19, 1982,

<sup>\*</sup>The Honorable Anna Diggs Taylor, Judge, U. S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, sitting by designation.

which was twenty-two months after the plaintiff was arrested and sixteen months after the charges for which he was arrested were dropped. In its ruling, the district court concluded that the statute of limitations was not tolled by the plaintiff's incarceration.

Federal courts are obligated to apply the most analogous state statute of limitations and its rules for tolling the statute to the fullest extent possible consistent with the Constitution and laws of the United States. Board of Regents v. Tomanio, 446 U. S. 478 (1980). In the instant case, the most analogous Kentucky State statute of limitations is its one-year time period allowed for bringing claims of false arrest and malicious prosecution provided under K.R.S. §413.140(1)(c). See Carmicle v. Weddle, 555 F. 2d 554 (6th Cir. 1977) (per curiam). Kentucky also has a tolling statute, K.R.S. §413.310, which provides: "The time of a confinement of the plaintiff in the penitentiary shall not be counted as part of the period limited for the commencement of an action."

The Sixth Circuit has recognized the validity of this tolling statute as being available for use by Kentucky state prisoners bringing §1983 actions. See Cunningham v. Jones, 567 F. 2d 653, 654 n. 2 (6th Cir. 1977), and Kirby v. Thomas, 336 F. 2d 462 (6th Cir. 1964). The Sixth Circuit has also recognized the validity and application of other similar tolling statutes to prisoners' §1983 actions. See Austin v. Brammer, 555 F. 2d 142 (6th Cir. 1977) (per curiam) (Ohio).

Since the plaintiff was incarcerated throughout the time period prior to his filing of his lawsuit, this court concludes that the applicable Kentucky one year statute of limitations was tolled during the time of plaintiff's incarceration.

The panel unanimously agrees that oral argument is not necessary in this appeal. Rule 34(a), Federal Rules of

Appellate Procedure. The district court's judgment is, accordingly, reversed. Rule 9(d)4, Rules of the Sixth Circuit.

ENTERED BY ORDER OF THE COURT

(s) John P. Hehman Clerk

### IN THE

### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY
AT LOUISVILLE

Civil Action C 82-0623 L(A)

EARL MILES BUCHANAN, - - - - Plaintiff,

v.

County of Jefferson, et al., - - Defendants.

### SUMMARY JUDGMENT

The defendant, having moved for summary judgment, and the plaintiff, having responded, and the Court, being fully advised in the premises,

It Is Ordered and Adjudged that the defendant's motion be and it is hereby sustained, and the action dismissed with prejudice.

This is a final and appealable judgment and there is no just cause for delay.

Dated 2-11-83

(s) Charles M. Allen Chief Judge

cc: Counsel of Record

### MEMORANDUM OPINION

This action is submitted to the Court on the defendant's motion for summary judgment. The plaintiff has responded to the motion. Because we believe that this action is ruled by *Carmicle* v. *Weddle*, 555 F. 2d 554, 555 (6th Cir. 1977), we grant the defendants' motion.

This prisoner action was filed *pro se* and in forma pauperis by Earl Miles Buchanan. It alleges that Buchanan was maliciously and falsely arrested by the defendants in deprivation of his rights under the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution. The action was filed in September of 1982 under 42 U.S.C. Sec. 1983.

The arrest complained of occurred in January of 1981 and the charges were dismissed in June of 1981. Plaintiff was in prison most of the intervening time on an unrelated charge.

The defendants plead probable cause and the statute of limitations. Because the statute had run well before the filing of the complaint, we need not consider the issue of probable cause.

Actions filed under Sec. 1983 has no "internal" limitations by statute; they must rely instead on state actions to which they are most closely analogous. Carmicle, supra; Mason v. Owens-Illinois, Inc., 517 F. 2d 520, 521 (6th Cir. 1975). This complaint clearly alleges wrongs closely akin to malicious prosecution and false arrest, and would be so construed in state court. The question then remains only whether the action was timely filed, i.e., when the cause accrued, whether it was tolled, and when it was filed.

The present cause of action accrued at the very latest when the last charges were dropped. Farris v. Sears Roebuck & Co., 415 F. Supp. 594 (W.D. Ky. 1976). In this case that date was June 24, 1981.

The Sixth Circuit has never recognized tolling of Sec. 1983 actions for those in prison or otherwise institutionalized. Cf. Kenney v. Killian, 232 F. 2d 288 (6th Cir. 1955). Since the action was not filed until over a year after the accrual of the cause of action, the one year Kentucky malicious prosecution limitation section bars this Sec. 1983 action. Ky. Rev. Stat. Sec. 413.140(1)(c).

Wherefore, the motion was summary judgment must be granted. An order to this effect is today entered.

Dated 2-11-83

(s) Charles M. Allen Chief Judge

cc: Counsel of Record

### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY
AT LOUISVILLE

Civil Action No. C 82-0623-L(A)

EARL MILES BUCHANAN - - - - Plaintiff

v.

Jefferson County, et al. - - - Defendants

### MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

Come the Defendants, by Counsel, and move this Court, pursuant to Fed. Rule 56(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, for Summary Judgment in favor of the Defendants on Plaintiff's cause of action.

The basis of this motion is that the Plaintiff is barred from bringing this suit because his search, arrest, imprisonment and prosecution were indisputably based upon probable cause and because this suit is barred by the applicable statute of limitations. Plaintiff has failed to raise any genuine issues of material fact thus entitling Defendants to a judgment as a matter of law.

In support of this motion, Defendants tender the attached Memorandum of Law, affidavits and exhibits.

(s) N. Scott Lilly
Assistant County Attorney
Counsel for Defendants
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### MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

Defendants contend that they are entitled to a judgment in their favor as a matter of law. The first and foremost reason summary judgment should be granted to the Defendants is that Plaintiff is barred from bringing this suit because his arrest and prosecution were indisputably founded upon probable cause. In addition, Plaintiff is barred from bringing this suit under the appropriate statute of limitations.

### STATEMENT OF THE CASE

Before relating the pertinent facts surrounding the arrest and prosecution of Plaintiff, Defendants would like to direct the Court's attention to the Affidavits which have also been submitted in support of their Motion for Summary Judgment. These Affidavits and the Exhibits thereto provide the factual setting related below and they will be referred to throughout this memorandum.

On January 14, 1981, during the execution of an arrest warrant for Calvin Buchanan and a search warrant for 3703 W. Kentucky Street, Louisville, Kentucky, (Exhibit 1 to Tangle Affidavit) police officers found Earl Buchanan in the home, sleeping in the same bedroom with Calvin Buchanan.

Earl Buchanan was taken into custody for several reasons. First, Kevin Stanford, who was in custody for charges stemming from the same incident which resulted in the Calvin Buchanan arrest warrant implicated Earl Buchanan in the robbery of the Short Stop Food Mart at 8811 Old Third Street Road, Louisville, Kentucky, on December 24, 1980. Second, Earl Buchanan fit a perpetrator's description given by at least one witness to the Short Stop robbery. Third, a sawed off shot gun identified in the

search warrant and fitting the description of the weapon used during the subject robbery was found during the search of the 3703 W. Kentucky Street residence. Further, Earl Buchanan's sister, Colleen Brookins, lived in apartments behind the Short Stop Food Mart and is in the same direction the robbers reportedly fled. All of this information was within the knowledge of the arresting officers on the night in question. Obviously, such information constituted probable cause for arrest. Under the circumstances, the police officers had good reason to believe that Earl Buchanan would not sit idly by while an arrest warrant was obtained and he was taken into custody. Earl and Calvin Buchanan were given their rights and taken to police head-quarters.

Once at headquarters, Plaintiff was kept in a room by himself and handcuffed to a chair in order to prevent him from walking about and becoming a security risk. Opportunities were provided to telephone counsel, which he did, and to use the restroom facilities.

Detective Cheser, lead investigator on the Short Stop robbery, was called at home and arrived at headquarters at approximately 5:30 a.m. Detective Cheser was briefed on the situation and then began to prepare for the line-ups.

There were seven line-ups conducted between approximately 11:40 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Earl Buchanan's counsel, public defender Ray Clooney, was present. Detective Cheser was responsible for conducting the line-ups.

Theresa McCrocklin, a witness to the Short Stop robbery was present during the line-ups, positively identified Earl Buchanan as one of the participants in the robbery. She signed a statement to that effect (Exhibit 1 to Cheser Affidavit).

Earl Buchanan was then formally charged with robbery, and placed in the custody of the Metropolitan Corrections Department. A grand jury indictment for the subject charges was obtained on March 4, 1981 (Exhibit 1 to Grimes Affidavit). Mr. William C. Grimes, Assistant Commonwealth Attorney, handled the case for the Commonwealth.

The Short Stop robbery was eventually dismissed based on a prosecutorial decision. Earl Buchanan was convicted on another outstanding unrelated offense on June 11, 1981, and sentenced to the Eddyville State Penitentiary as a persistent felony offender. The case against Earl Buchanan for the Short Stop robbery was dropped on June 24, 1981, the date originally set for the Short Stop robbery trial, because Mr. Grimes felt that such action was in the interest of judicial economy in light of Plaintiff's then recent conviction on the persistent felony offense for which he was sentenced to 20 years in the penitentiary. Further, the identification of Plaintiff by the witnesses was impeachable (see Affidavit of William Grimes).

The Plaintiff subsequently filed a civil rights complaint under 42 U.S.C. §1983 on September 29, 1982, more than one year after the arrest was made and the robbery charge dismissed.

As stated previously, Defendants have proposed that Plaintiff's action should be dismissed and Defendants should be granted summary judgment. First and foremost, there was probable cause to arrest and prosecute the Plaintiff thus barring any liability under 42 U.S.C. §1983 arising from the execution of the police officers' sworn duty to uphold the law and protect the citizenry. In addition, Plaintiff's action is barred by Kentucky's one year statute of limitations governing actions for false arrest and malicious prosecution. Thus, Defendants are entitled to a judgment as a matter of law because the Plaintiff has failed to raise any genuine issues of material fact and, in any event, his lawsuit is barred by the applicable statute of limitations.

### ARGUMENT

I. Defendant Police Officers Had Probable Cause to Arrest, and Prosecute the Plaintiff, Thus Barring Any Liability Under 42 U.S.C. §1983 for Alleged Damages Arising From the Execution of Their Duty.

Early in the morning of January 14, 1981, a Jefferson District Judge issued properly executed warrants for the search of a residence and the arrest of Calvin Buchanan, a suspect in a notorious murder/robbery. During the execution of these warrants, Earl Buchanan was also taken into custody based on information provided by one Kevin Stanford in a confession and which was corroborated by what the officers personally knew at the time and observed at the location of the arrest. This included the following facts: that Earl Buchanan fit the description of a suspect to the Short Stop Food Mart robbery on December 24, 1980; that a sawed off shot gun matching the description of the one used in the Short Stop Food Mart robbery and identified in the search warrant was found at the residence wherein Earl and Calvin Buchanan were sleeping; and that Earl Buchanan's sister lived in the apartments behind the Short Stop Food Mart, the same direction in which the robbers reportedly ran. In addition, police officers had good reason to believe Earl Buchanan would flee if not taken immediately into custody.

When substantial and truthworthy evidence reveals that a violation of the law has been committed and that it is more likely than not that the person to be arrested committed the violation, probable cause to arrest exists.

The Defendant officers had entered the premises with a valid search and arrest warrant for Calvin Buchanan. Earl Buchanan's subsequent arrest was incidental to the execution of the arrest warrant for Calvin Buchanan and the execution of the search warrant for 3703 W. Kentucky Street, Louisville, Kentucky, the residence where Calvin and Earl Buchanan were found.

The affidavits and exhibits attached hereto unquestionably support Defendants' contention that the Plaintiff was arrested with probable cause. It has been held that:

"A police officer who arrests someone with probable cause or a valid warrant is not liable in a §1983 suit for unlawful arrest. See *Hunter* v. *Clardy*, 558 F. 2d 290 (5th Cir. 1977); *Perry* v. *Jones*, 506 F. 2d 778 (5th Cir. 1975); *Mundy* v. *Georgia*, 586 F. 2d 778 (5th Cir. 1978).

In Mundy v. Georgia, id., photographic identifications which were allegedly suggestive were supplemented by other information that placed the defendant in the area of the criminal activity. Thus, the additional information constituted sufficient probable cause. In the instant case, the fact that Kevin Stanford's statement implicating Earl Buchanan was later suppressed as it related to his own criminal prosecution does not alter the fact that it provided probable cause for this Plaintiff's arrest. This Circuit has so held in Calvin Buchanan v. Jefferson County, et al., (6th Cir.) No. 82-5131. Order dated May 24, 1982, p. 3 (attached along with a copy of this Court's Memorandum Opinion in the same case). Further, as in Mundy, the police officer defendants verified the information gained from Stanford when they found the sawed off shotgun described in the search warrant and by witnesses to the Short Stop robbery. It is evident the Defendant police officers arrested the Plaintiff upon proper and sufficient probable cause.

Any allegations of malice on the part of the police are simply unfounded. It is crucial to note that the facts supporting the arrest were eventually placed before the Grand Jury who indicted the Plaintiff on March 4, 1981 for the Short Stop robbery. The independent decision of indictment by the Grand Jury can be viewed as nothing less than an endorsement of probable cause relieving the arresting officers of any possible liability for false arrest and malicious prosecution. It is a situation analogous to the issuance of an arrest warrant by an independent magistrate. There is a plethora of case law that a valid arrest warrant protects a state officer from §1983 liability. Carroll v. United States, 267 U. S. 132 (1925); Walker v. United States, 125 F. 2d 395 (5th Cir. 1942); Lopez v. Modisitt, 488 F. Supp. 1169 (W.D. Mich. 1980).

It has been established for over 150 years that in the Commonwealth of Kentucky the finding of an indictment against the accused by the grand jury is prima facie or presumptive evidence of probable cause for the criminal prosecution. *Garrard* v. *Willet* (4 J.J. Marsh), 27 Ky. 628 (1830).

On June 24, 1981 the Commonwealth Attorney's Office through prosecutor William Grimes made a motion to dismiss the case against Earl Buchanan for the Short Stop robbery based on "insufficient evidence." According to Grimes, the captioned phrase was used as a term of art, for the true reason the case was dismissed was in the interest of judicial economy and infirmities in the witness identification of the perpetrators. The Plaintiff had been convicted on another unrelated charge as a persistent felony offender and received a 20 year sentence just 13 days before the Short Stop robbery trial date. Because the Plaintiff was already going to spend a substantial period of time in the penitentiary and because of the questionable identification, Mr. Grimes decided to dismiss the case. As the Grimes Affidavit states, this action had no bearing whatsoever upon the Defendant officers investigation and arrest of Earl Buchanan.

In the instant case, the Court is faced with a situation where the Defendant police officers acted in a proper and commendable manner while executing their sworn duties but are being subjected to a frivolous and harassing lawsuit by an oft convicted felon. As eloquently stated by the Supreme Court in *Pierson* v. *Ray*, 386 U. S. 547, 555 (1947):

"A policeman's lot is not so unhappy that he must choose between being charged with dereliction of duty if he does not arrest when he has probable cause, and being mulcted in damages if he does."

Based upon the foregoing, it is readily apparent Plaintiff's suit should be dismissed as a matter of law because the Defendant police officers patently had probable cause to arrest and prosecute the Plaintiff, thus barring any liability under §1983. The Grand Jury indictment alone irrebuttably shields these Defendants from any liability. Therefore, Defendants request this Honorable Court to quickly terminate this preposterous lawsuit.

II. Plaintiff's Action is Barred by Kentucky's One Year Statute of Limitations Governing Actions for False Arrest, Malicious Prosecution and Depreciation of Civil Rights.

The purpose of a statute of limitation is to prevent a plaintiff from bringing stale claims against a defendant. Such statutes prescribe limitations on the right to bring certain causes of action unless brought within a specified period of time after the right accrued.

42 U.S.C. §1983 does not contain a limitation of action period for suits brought under its purview. However, it is well settled than in a suit filed under 42 U.S.C. §1983, the:

". . . federal district court must apply the statute of limitations of the state where it sits which would be applicable in the most closely analogous state action to determine the time with in which a cause of action must be commenced." Carmicle v. Weddle, 555 F. 2d 554, 555 (6th Cir., 1975).

The Supreme Court has also stated that the state statute of limitations which governs similar state actions will apply to federal civil rights actions brought under 42 U.S.C. §1983. Board of Regents of New York v. Tomanio, 446 U.S. 478 (1978).

The gist of Earl Buchanan's complaint is that he was unconstitutionally arrested and maliciously prosecuted. Thus, the applicable Kentucky statute of limitation is that provided in KRS 413.140(1)(c):

"The following action shall be commenced within one year after the cause of action accrued:

(c) an action for malicious prosecution, conspiracy, arrest, . . . (emphasis added)."

This Court has previously held that the one year statute of limitation applies to actions brought under the Civil Rights Act alleging malicious prosecution. Carmicle v. Weddle, supra; Farris v. Sears Roebuck & Co., 415 F. Supp. 594 (W.D. Ky., 1976). It is equally obvious that the one year limitation of action period provided in KRS 413.140 (1)(c) should apply in this case since it also is an action alleging false arrest.

The affidavits and exhibits submitted with this memorandum conclusively demonstrate that the arrest upon which the Plaintiff's claim is based accrued on January 14, 1981 and therefore, the clock began to run on Plaintiff's false arrest claim from that date. The dismissal of the robbery charge is dated June 24, 1981 at which time Plaintiff's malicious prosecution claim ripened. Since Plaintiff filed his suit against the Defendants on September 29, 1982, some 20 months after the alleged false arrest and some 15 months after the dismissal of the robbery charge, it is

beyond cavil that the one year statute of limitations should apply to the Plaintiff without exception and that the Plaintiff's entire cause of action is beyond the applicable statute of limitations and should be dismissed as matter of law.

### CONCLUSION

The function and purpose of summary judgment is to prevent vexation and delay, promote the expeditious and just disposition of cases and to avoid unnecessary trials where no genuine issues of material fact are raised.

Plaintiff alleges in his complaint the Defendant officers willfully and conspiratorially conducted an unlawful search and seizure, wrongfully arrested Plaintiff and maliciously prosecuted him thus depriving him of his constitutional rights. Mere allegations in the complaint do not constitute proof of triable issues. In light of the affidavits, exhibits and this tendered memorandum of law, it is obvious Plaintiff's claim is no more than a veratious attempt to harass public servants by way of a fictitious claim.

The Defendants direct the Court's attention to the attached affidavits of Detective Walter Tangel, Detective Eugene Cheser and Mr. William Grimes, along with the exhibits tendered with them. This evidence conclusively demonstrates that there is no genuine issue of material fact as to the probable cause which existed to arrest and prosecute Plaintiff. The subsequent dismissal has no bearing whatsoever on the probable cause question. Even if Plaintiff was telling the truth about his innocence, the constitution does not insure that only the guilty will be arrested. Baker v. McCollan, 443 U. S. 137 (1979). Further, Plaintiff's suit is barred by the applicable one year statute of limitations. There can be no dispute as to the date of the arrest, January 14, 1981, the date the charges were dismissed, June 24, 1982, and the fact that Plaintiff's lawsuit was filed September 29, 1982, 20 months after the

subject arrest and 15 months after the subject charges were lismissed.

The Defendants are entitled to a judgment in their favor as a matter of law since the Plaintiff has failed to raise any genuine triable issues of material fact in this siut and, in any event, his suit was not timely filed within the applicable statute of limitations.

### Respectfully submitted,

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### IN THE

### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

### FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY AT LOUISVILLE

### Civil Action No. C 81-0257 L(A)

CALVIN BUCHANAN,

Plaintiff,

v.

COUNTY OF JEFFERSON, COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY,

Defendants.

### MEMORANDUM OPINION—Entered February 10, 1982

Plaintiff Calvin Buchanan brought this action pursuant to 42 U.S.C. Sec. 1983, alleging that he was illegally arrested on or about January 14, 1981, physically abused, cruelly treated, and deprived of life, liberty and property without due process of law and equal protection of law. He further alleged that he had been illegally arrested and that the acts and conduct of defendants, Roemele, Spellman, Tangel, Howard, Hall, Cheser, and Jones were maliciously and intentionally performed.

These defendants have filed their affidavits and, in addition, there have been filed the affidavits of Kenneth G. Corey, District Judge for the 30th Judicial District of Kentucky, and of Richard FitzGerald, District Judge for the same District of Kentucky. Following the filing of these affidavits, defendants moved for summary judgment and the matter has been thoroughly briefed. In addition, there have been filed the depositions of defendants Hall and Cheser.

On January 8, 1981, a woman named Baerbell C. Poore was found deceased in the rear seat of her automobile. Investigation revealed that she had been shot twice in the head. She was the owner of and had been reported missing from the Checker Service Station, 4501 Cane Run Road, Louisville, Kentucky.

On January 13, 1981, Kevin N. Stanford, a 17 year old black, gave a statement to defendant Tangel, in which he related that he had, along with the plaintiff Calvin Buchanan and a person named Troy, last name unknown, entered the Checker Service Station and robbed the female attendant of cash and cigarettes. He further stated that she was sodomized at the station and then abducted to the place where her body was found, where she was sodomized again and shot by plaintiff Buchanan. He stated that the weapon used in the shooting was in the possession of Buchanan, and that it was a sawed-off shotgun and the property of a person known as "Doc" who lived with Buchanan. He then directed Tangel to 3703 West Kentucky Street, stating that Buchanan and Doc lived there.

All of the Stanford information was contained in an affidavit which Tangel presented to Judge Corey on the 14th of January, 1981. Pursuant to that affidavit, Judge Corey issued a search warrant and an arrest warrant, and plaintiff Buchanan was apprehended and placed in the Jefferson County Jail. Very shortly thereafter, on the 16th of January, plaintiff made a phone call which was recorded and which was made to his nephew. With plaintiff's permission, it was listened to by Lt. Spellman. The phone conversation was exculpatory and, as a result, plaintiff's nephew was arrested and charged with the crimes, and the charges against plaintiff were dismissed on January 20, 1981. However, he remained in jail for some 16 more days because of various bench warrants which had been served upon him.

The affidavits filed by each of the police defendants and unrebutted by any affidavits from the plaintiff, show that there was no valid contention that plaintiff was subjected to any physical abuse. Plaintiff, however, contends that summary judgment should not be granted because the arrest warrant was issued based on false information given to Tangel by the 17 year old Stanford.

The general rule is that an arrest made under authority of a properly issued warrant is simply not a false arrest. It is a true and correct one. See Rodriguez v. Ritchey, 556 F. 2d 1185 (5th Cir. 1977). An officer who acts pursuant to a judicially approved warrant, valid on its face, is protected from a suit for damages arising out of its issuance. Carroll v. United States, 267 U. S. 132 (1925), Walker v. United States, 125 F. 2d 395 (5th Cir. 1942), Lopez v. Modisitt, 488 F. Supp. 1169 (W.D. Mich. 1980). These authorities dispose of plaintiff's claim for false or unconstitutional imprisonment. These authorities also dispose of plaintiff's claim for false arrest.

As held by District Judge Gibson in Lopez v. Modisitt, supra, it is not the duty of a police officer who executes a false arrest warrant to independently investigate every claim of innocence. We also believe that a police officer who has the duty to investigate a heinous crime, and who is given a statement by an alleged aider and abettor of the crime implicating others who participated in the crime, and who is furnished information showing that the informant knows the residence of the alleged perpetrator, and who independently knows that the alleged perpetrator was a felon, should present such facts to a magistrate in order to obtain an arrest warrant, and certainly acts with probable cause.

It is, of course, axiomatic that the defendant police officers are not liable for any bureaucratic delay which may have ensued between the dismissal of the murder charges against plaintiff and the time when he was released. Apparently he was validly detained during those 16 days, but even if he was not, no liability extends to the named police officers who have no control over his detention, and who executed bench warrants for plaintiff's arrest on charges of possession of marijuana and drunk in a public place. The validity of the warrants are not in dispute here.

Finally, we note that the plaintiff has produced no evidence that would in any way indicate a violation of his constitutional rights by defendants McConnell, Helm, the County of Jefferson, or the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The Commonwealth of Kentucky is a sovereign state and is immune from liability under 42 U.S.C. Sec. 1983. Quern v. Jordan, 440 U.S. 332 (1979). As to the County of Jefferson, no proof is shown of any custom, policy or practice that would indicate that it was sanctioning any violation of the constitutional rights of the plaintiff. See Monell v. Department of Social Services, City of New York, 436 U.S. 658 (1978). As to defendants McConnell and Helm, it is established under the case of Rizzo v. Goode, 423 U.S. 362 (1976) that personal liability under 42 U.S.C. Sec. 1983 may not be imposed upon the superiors of allegedly offending policy officers unless they have actively participated or acquiesced in constitutional misconduct.

Here, there is no such showing. We have, therefore, this day entered our summary judgment dismissing all of the defendants with prejudice.

Dated 2/10/82

(s) Charles M. Allen Chief Judge

cc: Counsel of Record

### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY
AT LOUISVILLE

Civil Action No. C 82-0623-L(A)

Earl Miles Buchanan, - - - - Plaintiff

v.

Jefferson County, et al., - - - Defendants.

### AFFIDAVIT

Comes the Affiant, Detective Walter A. Tangel, after being duly sworn, states as follows:

- 1. I am a Detective with the Jefferson County Police Department and have been so employed for the past 7 years. I have been in the homicide/robbery department for the past 4 years.
- 2. On January 14, 1981, Lt. John Spellman, Sgt. Bill Howard, Lt. Col. Fred Roemele, Det. Hall, Det. Conway, Det. Hash, several uniformed city officers, and myself, were at 3703 W. Kentucky Street, for the purpose of executing an arrest warrant for Calvin Buchanan and executing a search warrant for the premises (both attached as Exhibit 1).
- 3. While at the aforesaid residence, we found Earl Buchanan who was sleeping in the same room with Calvin Buchanan. Earl Buchanan was arrested on information provided to the county police by Kevin Stanford who was already in custody for participating in the same robbery/murder for which Calvin Buchanan was being sought. Stanford had advised us early in the morning of January

14, 1981, that Earl Buchanan and David Buchanan robbed the Short Stop Food Mart at 1811 Old Third Street Road with a sawed off shot gun on December 24, 1980.

- 4. My notes reflect that Earl Buchanan and Calvin Buchanan were transported to headquarters from 3703 W. Kentucky Street by Sgt. Bill Howard and myself. We left the residence at approximately 3:05 a.m. and arrived at headquarters at approximately 3:16 a.m.
- 5. During the execution of the search warrant and the arrest of Calvin Buchanan, Earl Buchanan was found sleeping in the same bedroom with Calvin Buchanan.
- 6. There was probable cause to arrest Earl Buchanan based upon the facts:
- (a) Kevin Stanford implicated him in the Short Stop robbery saying he participated and provided the gun.
- (b) A sawed off shot gun which fit the description of the one used in the Short Stop robbery was found in the search of 3703 W. Kentucky Street.
- (c) Earl Buchanan fit the description of one of the subjects involved in the offense.
- (d) Colleen Brookins, sister of Earl Buchanan and mother of David Buchanan, lived in the apartments directly behind the Short Stop Food Mart; the direction in which the robbers fled.
- (e) I believed that Earl Buchanan would flee if he was not immediately arrested.
- 7. While in route to headquarters, I gave Earl Buchanan his Miranda rights.
- 8. At headquarters, Earl Buchanan was kept in a room by himself in order to prevent him from walking around freely and becoming a security risk. One arm was handcuffed to a chair. This is standard procedure. Opportunities were provided to telephone counsel and use restroom facilities. At no time did I, or any other police officer

that I saw, violate any of the Plaintiff's legal or constitutional rights.

- 9. Someone from the department called Det. Cheser at home at approximately 4:30 a.m. and he arrived at headquarters at approximately 5:30 a.m. to set up the line-ups. Det. Cheser was called because he was the lead investigator in the Short Stop Food Mart robbery.
- 10. I left headquarters for home sometime around 6:30 or 7:00 a.m.
- 11. Subsequently, on March 4, 1981, the Grand Jury returned an indictment against Earl Buchanan for the Short Stop Food Mart robbery.
- 12. The foregoing facts are known to me to be true, based on my own personal knowledge.

Further, Affiant sayeth naught.

(s) Walter A. Tangel Detective Walter A. Tangel

STATE OF KENTUCKY COUNTY OF JEFFERSON SS

Subscribed and sworn to before me by Detective Walter A. Tangel, this 12th day of January 1983.

My commission expires: August 20, 1983.

(s) Ellen M. Hesen Notary Public

### EDITOR'S NOTE

PAGES 253 through 282 WERE POOR HARD COPY AT THE TIME OF FILMING. IF AND WHEN A BETTER COPY CAN BE OBTAINED, A NEW FICHE WILL BE ISSUED.

# THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY DetactCOURT

### COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUL KY JEFFERSON COUNTY OF COUNTY

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## SEARCH WARRANT AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT of and RETITION FOR

appeared before the undersigned and being first duly sworn now on oath deposes, affirms and says that he have not there is reasonable and probable grounds DEPARTMENT Comes the affigut, Walter Tangel of a neace officer of personally

to believe and affiant loss believe that the property on the premises known and numbered as 3703 West Kentucky St and more particularly rescribed as follows: 3703 West Kentucky St

on the north 36th Street. Green weatherboard dwelling located side of Kentucky

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license unknown license unknown color Grey color Green Mark IV and/or in (a) cehrology described as 88 Lincoln Continetal Delta oldsmobile

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locati above at residing 6-11-49 unknown) D.O.B. Calvin Buchanan Eurel Buchanan name Buchanan (last Earl Doc

'persuc' property, to witt. following deserves

vehicles 38 caliber pistol, brand unknown, Sawed obf shot gun, gague and brand unknown. Assorted brands of cartoned cigarettees. Oes worn by Calvin Buchanan. Tires from above described vehicle comparison purpose from tire impressions at scene. Shoes

Affiant states that there is probable and reasonable cause to believe and believe that said property constitutes (check appropriate box or boxes) affia.

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- x) stolen or embezzled property;
- property or things used as the means of committing a crime;
- 되 the possession of another to whom any person may have deintention to use same as means of committing a crime or property or things in the possession of a person who has livered it for purpose of concealing it or preventing its being discovered; (X
  - property or things which consist of evidence which tends to show that a crime has been conmitted or that a particular person has committed a crime.

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years and the information and observations contained here n were received and made in his capacity as an officer thereof. Affiant has been an officer in the above agency for a period of

a.m./parax affiant received information from observed independent investigation: Service Station 450] Cane Run Road where she was deceased in and On January 13, 1981 Baerbel Poore had been earlier female attendant of cash and cigarettees. Kevin Stanford further along the affiant used in shooting was in possession of Calvin Buchanan Green color driven by Calvin Buchan and Troy sodimized entered along with the earlier the offenses and Stanford Buchanan at 3703 West Kentucky St subject known only to stating W. Kentucky St. Acting on the information received, affiant conducted the following Stanford sawed Shanks then female attendant was with Calvin Buchanan B/M/33 and Troy (last name\_unknown). had left Subject the Checker off tha t forcibly abducted to Shanks Ln and Oboe Dr where she was subject dimected affiant to 3703 West Kentucky St States Ln a nd rear seat of her auto, 1973 Chevrolet Ky that on January shot West C. the Calvin Buchanan and "Doc" had been shot twice shot both tire and foot that gun was used in the offense and that this weapon arlier described pistol was the property of a of following the offense. Stanford further 00 by Calvin at 8:10 P.M. Kevin N. Stanford B/M/17 Service Station 450] Cane run Rd and Robbed ... the Oboe Dr. Further weapons are kept in Linc. Mark Iv at Troy (last him as day of (last unk) were operating a 1972 sodimized at the station 450] Cane Run 7,198] at "Doc" who resides with Calvin Buchanan. January reported missing unk). print in the head. Perpitrators of the Jefferson County Kentucky. investigation revealed that approximately 7:30 P.M. Stanford states that Stanford reside at impressions in the ,198], at approximately f rom states the this location. Lic# propriator. the Checker Poore W/f/20 both before that Chevrolet states that CLE 258 Snow. he. he Rd sta 0 ag

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from an Subject Checked city and County 2-12-50 have alias information reveal new armed robbery was recently paroled 10-3-47 of Eurel 6-17-48 charge and conviction. Parole release L. Buchanan with residence at 12-24-80 from Eddyville 6-17-49 3703 West Kentucky Calvin Buchanan finding him birth dates of Penitentary 15

Jefferson County

Kentucky.

for the issuance of a search warrant, based on the aforementioned facts, information and circumstances and prays that a search warrant be issued, that the property be order of said court. seized, or any part thereof, and brought before any court and/or retained subject to Affiant has reasonable and probable cause to believe that grounds exist

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Subscribed and sworn to before me on .
this / 4 h day of Walter U. far Affiant

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Judge,

Court

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> COURT THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY JEFFERSON COUNTY District IN THE

OF

DEFENDANT'S EXHIBIT KENTUCKY

SEARCH WARRANT

policeman, sheriff, constable or other peace officer of the Commonwealth of Kentucky: any

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day been made to	cause for the issuance of this search warrant as set form in the alliquity and hereto and made a part hereof as if fully set out herein; you are commanded to make hereto and made a part hereins known and numbered as	Immediate search of the promise in Jefferson County / Kentucky 3703 West Kentucky St	and more particularly described as follows:		CAN AND THE CONTRACT OF CONTRA	The second secon	The second secon				The state of the s	and/or (a) vehicle(s) described as Lincoln Continental Mark IV Grey color license unknown	Oldsmobile Delta 88 Green color license unknown			and/or the person(s) of	chanan	Doc (last name unknown) residing at above locations		for the following personal property, to wit: Sawed off shot gun, gauge and	own. Assorted brands of cartoned cigarettees. by Calvin Bucahanan. Tires from above describ	6.7	

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and if you find same or any part thereof, to bring it forthwith before me or any other court in which the offense in respect to which the property or things taken is triable, or retain such property in your custody subject to the order of such court, Witness my hand the 14th day of 1981.

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Judge.

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Kentucky

Court

27a

CASE NO. 8/ F000370



ARREST REJECTED MEDIATION

Bail 800,000 Flo

The attiant, OFF Towns JCD in JEFFERSON COUNTY, KENTUCKY, the above-name of the Attiant Name, address and telephone number of the Attiant Name, address and telephone number of the Attiant Signature of Attiant & Dulley (1-1 arts)	If you fail to appear at the stated time and place you will be subject to the contempt power of the Court. Issued at LOUISVILLE  JEFFERSON COUNTY, KENTUCKY, this day of	SUMMONS/TO THE ABOVE - NAMED DEFENDANT:  You are hereby summonded to appear before the Judge of DISTRICT COURT OF JEFFERSON theday of19	You are hereby commanded to arrest the above-named defendant and bring him forthwith DISTRICT COURT, JEFFERSON COUNTY, KENTUCKY (or, if he be absent or unable to act before magistrate) regarding a complaint of	Name: Calama Buckenen  Address: 3703 W Kentur  Alternate Address:	JEFFERSON DISTRICT COURT 79-315-A COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY VS.
od defenda	you will be subject to the co	DEFENDANT: fore the Judge of DISTRICT 19	above-named defendant and UCKY (or, if he be absent of Saparities by	OFFICER  ACTION OF OFFICER	WARRANT above nam
Weave that on the 7 day of Rent unlawfully Let Let do Sold Control of Long to before me this 14 day  Sworp to before me this 14 day  of Jan 13 Lang  Eaghing Clerk/Mediation Officer	ontempt power of the Court. Issued at 19	COUNTY, KE	before the	OFFICER OF JEFFERSON DISTRICT OF SEPTEMBER OF JEFFERSON DISTRICT OF DATE OF THE PAULE MALLER, CLERK, PAULE MALLER,	ANT MEDIATION Bail Sea
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### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

### FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY AT LOUISVILLE

Civil Action No. C 82-0623-L(A)

EARL MILES BUCHANAN, - - - - Plaintiff

12.

Jefferson County, et al., - - - Defendants.

### **AFFIDAVIT**

Comes the Affiant, Detective Eugene Gene Cheser, after being duly sworn, states as follows:

- 1. I am a Detective with the Jefferson County Police Department and have been so employed for the past 22 years. I have been in the robbery department for the past 16 years.
- 2. That on January 14, 1981, at approximately 4:30 a.m., I received a call from someone at police headquarters informing me that Earl and Calvin Buchanan were in custody and that I was to come in and conduct the line-ups.
- 3. I arrived at headquarters at approximately 5:30 a.m. When I arrived, Earl Buchanan was in a small inner office with one arm handcuffed to the arm of the wooden chair he was sitting in. The office door was open at all times.
- 4. I told Earl Buchanan, to contact an attorney and gave him a telephone directory. I told him that if he did not call an attorney I would.
- 5. During this period of time, I was busy calling witnesses from several offenses and trying to locate fill-ins for the line-ups. It was very hectic in the office. No

other officers interviewed or talked with Earl Buchanan. I informed Earl Buchanan of his rights regarding the lineup. At no time while Earl Buchanan was in the custody of the Jefferson County Police Department did I, or any other officer that I saw, violate any of Earl Buchanan's legal or constitutional rights.

- 6. The line-up commenced as soon as Earl Buchanan's attorney, Ray Clooney, arrived and consulted with his client. Clooney arrived at approximately 11:30 a.m. and the line-ups commenced shortly thereafter. Earl Buchanan's counsel was present through all seven line-ups.
- 7. Earl Buchanan went willingly to the line-ups. His handcuffs were released; he did not struggle or attempt to flee when being taken to the line-ups. At no time was any unusual force used or necessary because of Mr. Buchanan's cooperative attitude.
- 8. A witness to the Short Stop robbery, Theresa McCrocklin, positively identified Earl Buchanan as one of the two robbers and signed a statement to that effect (Exhibit 1). Earl Buchanan was then formally charged and taken to Metro Corrections.
- 9. On March 4, 1981, I testified before the Grand Jury regarding the subject charges brought against the Plaintiff. The Grand Jury returned an indictment for those charges.
- 10. The foregoing facts are known to me to be true, based on my own personal knowledge.

Further, Affiant sayeth naught.

(s) Detective Eugene Cheser Detective Eugene Cheser STATE OF KENTUCKY COUNTY OF JEFFERSON SS

Subscribed and sworn to before me by Detective Eugene Cheser, this 12th day of January, 1983.

My commission expires: August 20, 1983.

(s) Ellen M. Hesen Notary Public



# DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

# JEFFERSON COUNTY POLICE HEADQUARTERS

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YOU HAVE BEEN ASKED TO VIEW A LINE-UP FOR THE PURPOSE OF IDENTIFICATION OF A SUBJECT

Eyewitness identification requires that you be absolutely certain of your identification in this Line-Up. No one must indicate to you or suggest to you which person to identify. The identification must be made entirely on your own. You will be required to testify must be made entirely on your own. You will be required to test in court regarding this Line-Up and the identification you have OR SUBJECTS INVOLVED IN A CRIME IN WHICH YOU ARE EITHER A WITNESS OR A VICTIM.

I HAVE THIS DATE VIEWED A LINE-UP AT 600 0 AND HAVE POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED SUBJECT(S)

WITNESSED: Def. Coy em Muser

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### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

### FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY AT LOUISVILLE

### Civil Action No. C 82-0623-L(A)

EARL MILES BUCHANAN, - - - Plaintiff,

v.

JEFFERSON COUNTY, et al., - - - Defendants.

### AFFIDAVIT

Comes the Affiant, William C. Grimes, after being duly sworn, states as follows:

- 1. I am a prosecutor for the Commonwealth Attorney's Office and have been so employed for two years.
- 2. I was responsible for handling the case against Earl Buchanan involving the robbery of the Short Stop Food Mart at 1811 Old Third Street Road, Louisville, Kentucky, on December 24, 1980.
- 3. I had the subject charges submitted to the Grand Jury on March 4, 1981, Detective Cheser testified at said hearing and an indictment for the subject charges was returned by the Grand Jury (attached Exhibit 1).
- 4. On my motion, charges against Earl Buchanan involving the Short Stop Food Mart robbery were subsequently dismissed on June 24, 1981. There were two reasons I made the prosecutorial decision to dismiss the charges. On June 11, 1981, less than two weeks prior to said dismissal, Earl Buchanan was convicted as a persistent felony offender with a recommended 20 year sentence. As a result, Earl Buchanan is now serving time in Eddyville

State Penitentiary. Although the motion to dismiss stated the reason "insufficient evidence", this was merely a term of art. The other substantive reason for dismissing the case, aside from the fact Earl Buchanan had been convicted on other unrelated charges, including a PFO sentence for a total of twenty years imprisonment, was the questionable identification of Buchanan by witnesses. Thus the case was dismissed in the interest of judicial economy in light of the fact that Earl Buchanan was already sentenced to the penitentiary for a substantial period of time and the witness infirmities; not because of any infirmities in the police officers investigation and arrest of Earl Buchanan.

- 5. In my professional opinion, as a Commonwealth Attorney with two years experience, after reviewing the facts and circumstances, I believe that the police investigation and subsequent arrest of Earl Buchanan for the Short Stop Food Mart robbery was properly performed.
- 6. As a Commonwealth Attorney, private defense counsel and public defender, I have known and worked with Detectives Tangel and Cheser in the past and I know them both to be good officers who are thorough investigators. In my experience these officers have always exhibited a keen awareness of defendants' rights in their investigative techniques.
- 7. I am professionally convinced that there was no wrongdoing, abuse or violation of constitutional rights in the search and seizure, arrest, imprisonment and prosecution of Earl Buchanan for the Short Stop Food Mart robbery on December 24, 1980.

Further, Affiant sayeth naught.

(s) William C. Grimes William C. Grimes State of Kentucky County of Jefferson SS

Subscribed and sworn to before me by William C. Grimes this 12th day of January, 1983.

My commission expires: August 20, 1983.

(s) Ellen M. Hesen Notary Public

JEFFERSON CIRCUIT, OURT DIVISION THIRTE! (13)

# VEALTH OF I LNTUCKY

t Court, Criminal Division

FEBRUARY Term A. D., 1981

# THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

Against

FARI, MYLES BUCHANAN

AKA EARL MILES BUCHANAN

AKA ROBERT EUGENE HARTMAN

ROBBERY IN THE FIRST DEGREE KRS 515.020 Class B Felony 10 to 20 years

PERSISTENT FELONY OFFENDER KRS 532.080 Indeterminate

39a

The Grand Jurors of the County of Jefferson, in the name and by the authority of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, charge:

# COUNT ONE

committing a theft at the Short Stop Food Market located at 8811 force while armed with a sawed-off shotgun and in the course of Jefferson County, Kentucky, the defendant, Earl Myles Buchanan, acting alone or in concert with another, committed the offense Robbery in the First Degree by threatening the use of physical That on or about the 24th day of December, 1980, in Old Third Street Road.

# COUNT TWO

age, has previously been convicted for the following prior felonies Further, the defendant, Earl Myles Buchanan, also known as Earl Miles Buchanan, who is more than twenty-one (21) years of and is now charged as being a Persistent Felony Offender in the First Degree as follows:

Daviess County, Kentucky, a court of general criminal jurisdiction, That on or about the 7th day of August, 1973, above named defendant appeared in the Daviess Circuit Court,



# THE COM! ONWEALTH OF K .NTUCKY

Jefferson Circuit Court, Criminal Division 81CR0263 (13)

FEBRUARY Term A. D., 19 81

THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

Against

MYLES BUCHANAN

EARL MILES BUCHANAN

40a

PAGE 2 OF

ROBERT EUGENE HARTMAN

of Kentucky, charge The Grand Jurors of the County of Jefferson, in the name and by the authority of the Commonwealth

pursuant

said court convicted and sentenced the defendant to thirty (30) felony in violation of the Kentucky to serve in the to Indictment No. 17317, charging him with Armed Robbery, penitentiary. Revised Statutes; and that

AND THAT PREVIOUSLY,

than two and a half (2%) years nor more than ten (10) years. to Indictment No. County, Michigan, a court of general criminal jurisdiction, pursuant above defendant appeared in the Calhoun Circuit Court, Calhoun said court convicted and sentenced the defendant to not less a felony in violation of the Michigan Statutes Annotated; and AND THAT ALSO, (2) That on or about the 6th day of February, 1968, 23-288, charging him with Assault with Intent the

to Indictment No. County, defendant appeared in the Calhoun Circuit Court, Calhoun Michigan, a court of general criminal jurisdiction, pursuant (3) That on or about the 6th day of February, 1968, 23-287, charging him with Unarmed Robbery, the

# COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY THE

Jefferson Circuit Court, Criminal Division

81000263/13

Term A. D., 1981 FEBRUARY

# THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

Against

BUCHANAN EARL MYLES

AKA EARL MILES BUCHANAN

AKA ROBERT EUGENE HARTMAN

OF 3 PAGE

The Grand Jurors of the County of Jefferson, in the name and by the authority of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, charge:

court convicted and sentenced the defendant to not less concurrent felony in violation of the Michigan Statutes Annotated; years, (15)fifteen than years nor more 23-288 Indictment No. (3) three said

ALL AGAINST THE PEACE AND DIGNITY OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF

KENTUCKY

TRUE BILL K

Warren Southard, 9612 Brintannia Court; Theresa McCrocklin, 525 East Southern Heights; Richard Robinson, 191 Old English Court; David King, Clerk, Jefferson Circuit Court, Hall

of Justice; 660 River City Mall John Glover, Probation and Parole,

6095; E. Cheser, 6277 JCPD 6654; Howard, Tangel, W. Ta Off.:

P.G. OF JEFFERSON CIRCUIT COURT CERTIFIED COPY OF RECORD CLERK PAULIE MILLER.

RECEIVED, from the Foreman of the Grand Jury. in their presence, and filed in open Court. ATTEST: PAULIE MULIEM, Clerk 4 1931 MAR

.. D.C.

# No. 82-5131

# UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

# FOR THE SIXTH CIRCUIT

CALVIN BUCHANAN

Plaintiff-Appellant

v.

COUNTY OF JEFFERSON;
MITCH MCCONNELL;
EDGAR HELM;
LT. COL. ROEMELE;
LT. SPELLMAN;
DET. TANGEL;
SGT. W. HOWARD;
DET. HALL;
DET. CHESER

Defendants-Appellees

# ORDER-Filed May 24, 1982

Before: Kennedy and Martin, Circuit Judges; and Guy, District Judge.\*

The plaintiff appeals the summary judgment for the defendants in this civil rights action. He now moves for appointment of counsel. That motion has been referred to this panel pursuant to Rule 9(a), Rules of the Sixth Circuit. Meanwhile, the plaintiff has filed an informal brief with this Court.

Following the robbery of a service station during which the female attendant was sodomized, kidnapped and murdered, the Jefferson County, Kentucky police arrested a juvenile as a suspect. He gave a statement to the police

<sup>\*</sup>The Honorable Ralph B. Guy, Jr., Judge, U. S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, sitting by designation.

naming the plaintiff as the chief perpetrator of the above crimes and showed officers where the plaintiff resided. Based upon this information, the police prepared a search warrant for the residence and a warrant for the plaintiff's arrest. These were signed by a Jefferson County District Judge and promptly executed on January 14, 1981.

Two days later, the plaintiff was permitted to make a recorded telephone call to his nephew. As a result of that call, the police arrested the nephew. All charges against the plaintiff were dismissed on January 20, 1981, although he remained in custody sixteen days longer as the result of unrelated bench warrants for his arrest.

The plaintiff then filed this civil rights action seeking damages for his arrest and incarceration. In his complaint, he alleged the police knew or should have known that the juvenile was not telling the truth but that they nonetheless obtained a warrant for the plaintiff's arrest "with a knowing or reckless disregard for the truth." The defendants, who included seven individual officers who worked on the case as well as Jefferson County and its Judge Executive and Chief of Police, filed a motion for summary judgment supported by several affidavits of parties involved in the criminal investigation and the plaintiff's arrest, detention, and release. The plaintiff opposed the motion, but the district court granted summary judgment on grounds the defendants had probable cause to obtain the search and arrest warrants and could not be held liable under 42 U.S.C. §1983 for any damages arising from the execution of those warrants. It also held there was no evidence that Jefferson County or its Judge Executive or Chief of Police participated in the events related above, thus precluding any liability for damages on their part. This appeal followed.

The Supreme Court has noted that the Constitution "does not guarantee that only the guilty will be arrested."

Baker v. McCollan, 443 U. S. 137, 145 (1979). A policeman who executes a valid arrest warrant is not liable for damages under §1983 merely because the person arrested is later shown to be innocent. Atkins v. Lanning, 556 F. 2d 485, 487 (10th Cir. 1977); Perry v. Jones, 506 F. 2d 778, 780 (5th Cir. 1975); McCloud v. Tester, 391 F. Supp. 1271 (E.D. Tenn. 1975).

Here, the plaintiff alleged the defendants obtained the arrest warrant knowing they had insufficient evidence to support such a warrant. Upon review of the record and the affidavits submitted by the defendants in support of their motion for summary judgment, this Court finds the district court did not err in finding the arrest warrant supported by probable cause. See Smith v. Gonzales, No. 80-3968 (5th Cir. March 15, 1982). Compare Baskin v. Parker, 602 F. 2d 1205 (5th Cir. 1979); Guerro v. Mulhearn, 498 F. 2d 1249, 1256 (1st Cir. 1974). The fact the juvenile's statement was later suppressed as it related to his criminal prosecution does not alter the fact it provided probable cause for the plaintiff's arrest warrant at the time it was obtained and executed. Cf. Mundy v. State of Georgia, 586 F. 2d 507 (5th Cir. 1978).

Upon consideration of the motion for the appointment of counsel,

It is Ordered that said motion be and it hereby is denied.

This panel, after examination of the record and the plaintiff's informal brief, agrees unanimously that oral argument is not needed in this appeal, Rule 34(a), Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure, and finds it manifest that the questions on which the decision of the cause depends are so unsubstantial as not to need further argument. Accordingly,

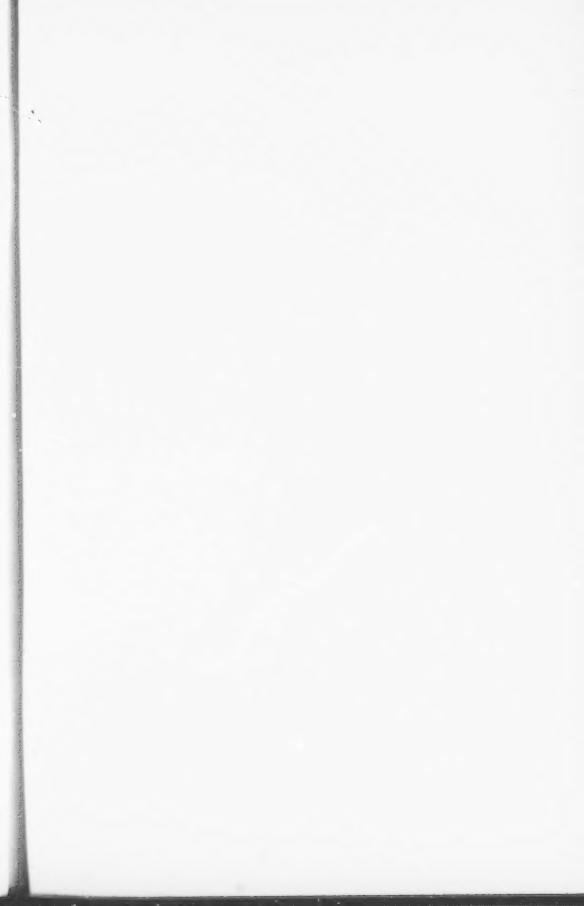
It is Ordered that the district court's summary judgment of February 10, 1982 be and it hereby is affirmed. Rule 9(d)3, Rules of the Sixth Circuit.

Entered by Order of the Court

(s) John P. Hehman Clerk

Issued as Mandate: July 12, 1982

Costs: None



No. 83-1914

IN THE

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER TERM, 1983

JEFFERSON COUNTY, KENTUCKY, DETECTIVE JONES, LIEUTENANT COLONEL ROEMELE, LIEUTENANT SPELLMAN, DETECTIVE TANGEL, SERGEANT W. HOWARD, and DETECTIVE CHESER.

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Supreme Court, U.S. FILED

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SUPREME COURT, U.S.

JUN 11 1984

ALEXANDER L. STEVA

- PETITIONERS

versus

X

EARL M. BUCHANAN

RESPONDENT

# MOTION FOR LEAVE TO PROCEED IN FORMA PAUPERIS

Comes now the Respondent, Earl M. Buchanan, <u>Pro Se</u>, and moves this Honorable court pursuant to Title 28, United States Code \$ 1915 for leave to proceed therein without prepayment of costs.

The Respondent has previously been granted leave to proceed in forma pauperis in both the United States District Court for the Western District of Kentucky (Louisville Division) and the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

The Respondent's affidavit in support of this motion is attached hereto.

Respectfully submitted,

Earl M, Butheren

Earl M. Buchanan, Pro Se Respondent Kentucky State Penitentiary Box 128, Eddyville, Kentucky 42038

# AFFIDAVIT IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR LEAVE TO PROCEED IN FORMA PAUPERIS

I, Earl M. Buchanan, being first duly sworn according to law, depose and say that I am the respondent in the above-entitled cause.

That in support of my motion to proceed without being required to prepay Fees, Costs, or give Security therefor;

I state that because of my poverty I am unable to pay the costs of said cause or to give security therefor;

and that I believe 7 am entitled to the redress I seek in said cause. I further swear that the responses that I have made to the questions asked below relating to my ability to pay the cost of proceeding in this court are true and correct.

- 1. That I own no checking or savings account.
- That I own no real estate, stocks, bonds, notes, automobiles or other valuable property.
- 3. That I have received no income from a business, profession; or other form of self-employment.
- 4. No persons are dependent upon me for support.
- I am not presently employed, because of my confinement at Kentucky State Penitentiary.

I understand that a false statement or answer to any of the above will subject me to penalties for perjury.

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY SS: Earl Mr. Electron (affiant signature)

Subscribed and sworn to before me a notary by Earl M. Buchanan, on this 5th day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 1984.

My Commission expires: Navember 15,1986

Notary Public: 1 state-st-large

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IN THE

# SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES OCTOBER TERM, 1983

JEFFERSON COUNTY, KENTUCKY,
DETECTIVE JONES,
LIEUTENANT COLONEL ROEMELE,
LIEUTENANT SPELLMAN,
DETECTIVE TANGEL,
SERGEANT W. HOWARD, and
DETECTIVE CHESER,

- petitioners

versus

EARL M. BUCHANAN

RESPONDENT

ON WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO
THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE SIXTH CIRCUIT

# PETITION IN OPPOSITION TO THE WRIT OF CERTIORARI

BRIEF FOR RESPONDENT

EARL M. BUCHANAN, PRO SE BOX 128 EDDYVILLE, KENTUCKY 42038

# QUESTIONS PRESENTED FOR DENYING REVIEW

- 1. WHETHER THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

  FOR THE SIXTH CIRCUIT CORRECTLY APPLIED THE

  TOLLING STATUTE \$ 413.310, KENTUCKY REVISED

  STATUTE WHICH PROVIDES: "THE TIME OF A

  CONFINEMENT OF THE PLAINTIFF IN THE PENITENTIARY

  SHALL NOT BE COUNTED AS PART OF THE PERIOD LIMITED

  FOR THE COMMENCEMENT OF AN ACTION".
- 2. WHETHER THE PETITIONER'S POLICE OFFICERS ARREST OF THE RESPONDENT WITHOUT A WARRANT AND WITHOUT PROBABLE CAUSE WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE FOURTH AMENDMENT, WAS A VIOLATION OF THE RESPONDENT'S CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS.

# JURISDICTION

THIS IS A CIVIL CASE, THE JUDGMENT WAS ENTERED FEBUARY 14, 1984 IN THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE SIXTH CIRCUIT. THE JURISDICTION OF THIS COURT IS INVOKED PURSUANT TO TITLE 28, UNITED STATES CODE, SECTION 1254 (1).

# THE CONSTITUTIONAL AND STATUTORY PROVISIONS INVOLVED

THIS CASE INVOLVES SECTION 8 413.310, OF THE KENTUCKY REVISED STATUTE: WHICH PROVIDES THAT;

" the time of confinement of the plaintiff in the penitentiary shall not be counted as part of the period limited for the commencement of an action". THIS CASE ALSO INVOLVES SECTION 413.140 (1)(c), Kentucky Revised Statutes which provides that:

- "(1) The following actions shall be commenced within one (1) year after the cause of action accrued:
- "(c) an action for malicious prosecution, conspiracy, arrest, reduction, criminal conversation or breach of promise of marriage".

THIS CASE ALSO INVOLVES Title 42, United States Code, Section 1983, which provides that:

"Every person who, under color of any statute ordinance, regulation, custom, or usage, of any state or territory or the District of Columbia, subjects, or causes to be subjected, any citizen of the United States or other person within the jurisdiction thereof to the deprivation of any rights, privileges, or immunities secured by the Constitution and the laws, shall be liable to the party injured in an action at law, suit in equity, or other proper proceeding for redress.

THIS CASE ALSO INVOLVES the Fourth Amendment which provides

that: 'The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

This case also involves the first section of the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which provides

that:

"All persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the States wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

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NO		

IN THE

# SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES OCTOBER TERM, 1983

JEFFERSON COUNTY, KENTUCKY, DETECTIVE JONES, LIEUTENANT COLONEL ROEMELE, LIEUTENANT SPELLMAN, DETECTIVE TANGEL, SERGEANT W. HOWARD, and DETECTIVE CHESER.

PETITIONERS

Versus

EARL M. BUCHANAN

RESPONDENT

# FOR A WRIT OF CERTICRARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE SIXTH CIRCUIT.

To the Honorable, The Chief Justice and Associate Justices of the Supreme Court of the United States: The Respondent herein respectfully prays that the writ of Certiorari to review the Judgment and opinion of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit entered in this cause on February 14, 1984, be denied.

### OPINIONS BELOW

The opinion of the Court of Appeals, whose judgment was entered February 14, 1984 should be affirmed, it is unreported, and is reprinted in the appendix to the Brief in opposition to the Petition. The opinion of the United States District Court for the Western District of Kentucky was entered on February 11, 1983 is also unreported and is reprinted in the appendix to this Brief in opposition.

# STATEMENT OF THE CASE

The respondent, Earl M. Buchanan, filed a civil suit pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983 in the United States District Court for the Western District of Kentucky at Louisville. The jurisdiction was invoked pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1343 on October 19, 1982, Chief United States Magistrate, George J. Long entered an order that the complaint be filed and granted leave to proceed in forma pauperis.

This case was assigned to the Honorable Charles M. Allen, Chief Judge, United States District Court for the Western District of Kentucky at Louisville.

Respondent was taken into custody by petitioner's [police] on January 14, 1981 at the early morning hours of 2:00 a.m. The petitioners police officers came to the respondent's residence with a warrant for the arrest of respondent's brother.

After the door to the house was opened, the petitioners police officers forced there way into the house with their guns drawn and arrested respondent's brother.

The petitioners police officers next with their guns aimed at respondent, ordered him to get out of bed, and was then searched, made to get dressed, and then handcuffed and taken to the Jefferson County Police Station where he was held incommunicudo for over (8) eight hours without probable cause, nor reasonable grounds to arrest respondent.

The petitioners police officers forced respondent to be in approximately (8) eight different lineups against his will and without lawful authority.

No charges was placed against respondent until after the police forced respondent to be placed in the lineups at the Jefferson County Police Department, where he was the only participate in the lineups that had a full beard, plus the police officers had taken pictures of respondent prior to the lineups conducted at the Jefferson County Police Station. The two lawyers that were called to the ploice Station for respondent's brother, the police would not allow neither attorney into the room with the police and witnesses while the lineups were being conducted. One of the attorneys requested to be present with the police officers and witnesses during the lineups.

The District Court granted summary judgment to petitioners based upon the respondent's failure to file his civil action within the applicable period of limitation. However the District Court did not apply the State of Kentucky's tolling statute. (App. 4a-6a Memorandum opinion of District Court, dated 2/11/83).

The United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit issued an order reversing the District Court's judgment based upon the Kentucky tolling Statute (app.la ).

# REASONS FOR THE DENIAL OF WRIT

The judgment of the Court of Appeals in this case relied on the applicable State Statute of Limitation and the relevant tolling provisions, this Court in <u>Board of Regents v. Tomanio</u>, 446 U.S. 478, 100 S.Ct. 1790, 64 L.Ed.2d 440,(1980), held that Federal Courts were "obligated not only to apply the analogous New York Statute of Limitations to respondent's Federal Constitutional claims, but also to apply the New York rule for tolling that Statute of limitations.

The Kentucky legislature has specifically provided for the tolling of the Statute of Limitations, Kentucky Revised Statute Section # 413.310 provides that;

> "The time of confinement of the plaintiff in the penitentiary shall not be counted as part of the period limited for the commencement of an action".

The respondent contends that Rule 17.1 (a) of the Supreme Court of the United States is not appliable to this case. There is no conflict with the decision of another Federal Court of Appeals on the same matter render by the Sixth Circuit.

Based on the foregoing the Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit has rendered its decision on the bases of this Court's mandate issue in Board of Regents V. Tomanio, 446 U.S. 478, 100 S.Ct. 1790, 64 L.Ed.2d 440,(1980) of which has been followed in Fernandez v. Tully, 681 F.2d 42,(1st Cir. 1982); Quinn v. Syracuse Model Neighborhood Corp., 613 F.2d 438,(2nd Cir. 1980); Aitchison v. Raffiani, 708 F.2d 96,(3rd Cir. 1983); Miller v. Smith, 625 F.2d 43,(5th Cir. 1980); Yarber v. Allstate Insurance Company, 674 F.2d 239,(4th Cir. 1982); Wakeen v. Hoffman House, Inc., 724 F.2d 1238,(7th Cir. 1983); Martin v. Aubuchon, 623 F.2d 1282,(8th Cir. 1980); Conerly v. Westinghouse Electric Corp., 623 F.2d 117 (9th Cir. 1980); Brown v. Bigger, 622 F.2d 1025, (10th Cir. 1980); McGhee v. Ogburn, 707 F.2d 1313,(11th Cir.1983)

WHEREFORE, the respondent prays that the Petition for a Writ of Certiorari be DENIED.

# I. K.R.S. 413.310 IS NOT INCONSISTENT WITH THE POLICY OF DETERRENCE INHERENT IN 42 U.S.C. \$ 1983

In this Court's mandate of the controlling case of

Board of Regents v. Tomanio, 446 U.S. at 484, held that application
of State tolling rules to \$ 1983 claims is required by 42 U.S.C.

\$ 1988.

There is no question that the Kentucky Legislature has their power to enact this Statute \$ 413.310 and absent more specific language indicating the statute should be applied on a case by case basis, it should be applied generally to all prisoners. Nor should the fact that this suit was brought while responent was still in prison to have any effect upon the interpretation of the State Statute.

Since Congress has decided that \$ 1983 class actions brought in different States, like individual action under \$ 1983, will be governed by differing statutes of limitations and differing rules regarding tolling and tolling effects unless those state rules are inconsistent with Federal Law.

It should be noted that the respondent's claim is distinguish from Major v. Arizona State Prison, 642 F.2d at 315 n. 6, "His confinement in the Arizona State Penitentiary did not strip him of his legal capacity to sue under 42 U.S.C. \$ 1983 and, therefore, his imprisonment cannot be considered a "disability" within the meaning of Arizona's tolling provision.

Since the State of Kentucky's Statute for tolling is applied within this State to all prisoner's confined in any and all of the Institutions within the State. The Kentucky Legislatures have set provisions for application of Limitations;

- (1) "Imprisonment as tolling statute of limitation. 24 ALR 2d 618
- (2) "Imprisonment of Party to civil action as tolling Statute of Limitation. 77 ALR 3d 735.

The petitioner's in their petition contends that the Sixth Circuit and Ninth Circuits are in direct conflict as to their construction and application of similar tolling provisions.

It is evident that the Ninth Circuit's decision rendered in Major v. Arizona State Prison, 642 F.2d 311, (9th Cir. 1981), is in direct conflict with only this Court's mandate of Tomanio, and the decisions rendered in the First Circuit, Second Circuit, Third Circuit, Fourth Circuit, Fifth Circuit, Fifth Circuit, Sixth Circuit, Seventh Circuit, Eighth Circuit, Tenth Circuit, and Eleventh Circuit. Each Circuit's Court of Appeals decision's rendered has citiad Tomanio supra.

The Sixth's Circuits decision in this case is similar to those issue in <u>Miller v. Smith</u>, 625 F2d 43,(5th Cir. 1980), the Fifth Circuit held;

"We are now of the opinion that under the teachings of <u>Tomanio</u>... the prisoner was entitled to the benefit of a Texas tolling Statute according to its express terms

and the Tenth Circuit in Brown v. Bigger, 622 F.2d 1025,(10 Cir. 1980), the Court held that:

"In interpreting other provisions of this tolling Statute, Courts have given literal meaning to the language . . .

We most similarly give effect to the Statute's plain meaning notwithstanding the fact appellant was able to bring this suit while incarcerated.

Petitioner's correctly argues that prisoner's today are generally less restricted than they were historically. Certainly the incearsed right to counsel, the right to have transcripts of trial records, and the access to law libraries have rendered prisoners much less isolated and restricted. However this fact along does not render the Kentucky's Statute for tolling a suits limitation period unconstitutional or inconsistent with the Legislature intent.

The purpose of the Statute is to provide prisoners with additional time to assent their legal rights. There is no question that the Legislature had the power to enact this Statute and determine the conditions under which a right may accrue and the period in which a right may be asserted.

The Respondent submitte that the only circumstances that would suspend or toll the running of the limitation period under 413.310-KRS. are/those expressly provided under State Law.

As a general practice, where congress has created a federal right without proscribing a period for enforcement, the Federal Courts uniformly borrow the most analogous state Statute of Limitations. Thus the applicable period of limitation is derived from that which the State would apply if the action had been brought in a State Court.

In virtually all Statutes of Limitations the Chronological length of the limitation period is interrelated with provisions regarding tolling, revival, and questions of application.

II. THE COURT OF APPEALS DID NOT ERROR BY NOT EXAMINING THE PETITIONER'S ARGUMENT ON "THE PROBABLE CAUSE ISSUE ".

The petitioner's (police officers) in the District Court has contended that the robbery of the Short Stop Food Mart at 8811 Old Ehird Street Road in Louisville, Kentucky on December 24, 1980, supplied the probable cause for the arrest of Respondent.

First it should be noted that with the numerous factors that the petitioner's claim based the probable cause for the respondent's arrest in this case, of which they claim all of the information was within their knowledge on the morning of January 14, 1981 the day they took respondent into custody.

Notwithstanding the fact that petitioner's claim they had numerous factors for the arrest of respondent, in spite of the factors that they claim were within their knowledge on January 14, 1981, the petitioners still did not seek an arrest warrant for the respondent for the robbery of the Short Stop Food Mart.

The respondent contents that no arrest warrant was issued or sought in this case.

Surely the petitioner's with the knowledge they claim of the numerous factors, would have without a doubt sought a warrant for respondent's arrest at the same time they sought the arrest warrant for respondent's Brother Calvin Buchanan.

The respondent in the District Court sought information from the petitioners (police officers) pursuant to the authorities of Federal Rules of Civil Procedures Rule 26, to get prime facie facts which would have shown in the affirmative that the robbery charge that the petitioners claims probable cause for the arrest of respondent was unreliable. (see, Motion for Discovery at page 7a appendix).

The petitioners know or should have known that two weeks before they arrested the respondent for the robbery of the Short Stop Food Mart at 8811 Old Third Street Road, that said robbery case had been closed by the Jefferson County Police Department on/or about December 30,1980, due to the fact that both the perpetrator's of the Crime were postively identified by the eyewitnesses of the robbery at a lineup held at the Jefferson County Police Department. (see, Response to motion Summary, P. 10a).

It is obvious and evident in this case that such information as the petitioners are asserting, could not constitute probable cause for the respondent's arrest in the instant case.

It is well settled law that an "arrest" which is made without a warrant is not violative of the constitution only if "at the moment the arrest was made"... the officer's had probable cause to make it - - - whether at that moment the facts and circumstances within their knowledge and of which they had reasonable trustworthy information were sufficient to warrant a prudent man in believing that the person arrested had committed or was committing an offense.

This Court held in <u>Pierson v. Ray</u>, 386 U.S. 547, 87 S.Ct. 1213. 18 L.Ed.2d 288 (1967). that:

"The defense of good faith and probable cause" available to a police officer under section 1983, there is no suggestion that a police officer is entitled to a defense of good faith when he makes an arrest without a warrant and without probable cause.

The petitioners in this case acted in their own unchecked discretion upon information too vague and from too untested a sourse to permit a judicial officer to accept it as probable cause for an arrest warrant for the respondent. Beck v. State of Ohio, 379 U.S. 89, 85 S.Ct. 223, (1964);

"An arrest without a warrant bypasses the safeguards provided by an objective predetermination of probable cause, and substitutes instead the far less reliable procedure of an after-the-event justification for the arrest or search, too likely to be subtly infuenced by the familiar short comings of hindsight judgment".

## CONCLUSION

WHEREFORE, the respondent for the reasons stated herein and the authorities relied upon in this respond to the petitioners Petition for Writ of Certiorari, respectfully prays that the Petition for A Writ of Certiorari be DENIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Earl M. Buchanan, Respondent

Kentucky State Penitentiary P. O. Box 128 Eddyville, Kentucky 42038

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing Petition in Opposition for a Writ of Certiorari pursuant to the rules of this Court has been mailed to William T. Warner, Counsel for Petitioners, postage prepaid addressed to law offices of Nold, Mosley, Clare, Hubbard, and Townes, Fifth Floor, Hart Block Building, 730 West Main Street, Louisville, Kentucky 40202, on this the day of the copy of the foregoing Petition

Earl M. Buchanan, Respondent

\*\*\*\* APPENDIX \*\*\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\* APPENDIX \*\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\* APPENDIX \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

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NO. 83-5143

UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE SIXTH CIRCUIT

JOHN P. HEHMAN, Clerk

EARL MILES BUCHANAN

Plaintiff-Appellant

v.

COUNTY OF JEFFERSON: MITCH MCCONNELL: DETECTIVE JONES; CHIEF EDGAR HELM; LT. COL. ROEMELE; LT. SPELLMAN; DET. TANGEL; SGT. W. HOWARD; DET. HALL; DET. CHESER

ORDER

Defendants-Appellees

BEFORE: LIVELY, Chief Circuit Judge; EDWARDS, Circuit Judge; and TAYLOR, District Judge\*

This pro se plaintiff appeals from a district court
judgment dismissing his civil rights complaint filed under 42
U.S.C. §1983. Plaintiff sought monetary damages from a judge, a
county police department and several of its officers for allegedly
having falsely arrested him on January 14, 1981. The district
court dismissed the complaint for being time-barred under Kentucky's
one year statute of limitations for bringing claims of false arrest
and malicious prosecution. The complaint was filed on October 19,
1982, which was twenty-two months after the plaintiff was arrested
and sixteen months after the charges for which he was arrested
were dropped. In its ruling, the district court concluded that the
statutue of limitations was not tolled by the plaintiff's incarceration.

\*The Honorable Anna Diggs Taylor, Judge, U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, sitting by designation. Federal courts are obligated to apply the most analogous state statute of limitations and its rules for tolling the statute to the fullest extent possible consistent with the Constitution and laws of the United States. Board of Regents v. Tomanio, 446 U.S. 478 (1980). In the instant case, the most analogous Kentucky State statute of limitations—is its one-year time period allowed for bringing claims of false arrest and malicious prosecution provided under K.R.S. §413.140(1)(c). See Carmicle v. Weddle, 555 F.2d 554 (6th Cir. 1977) (per curiam). Kentucky also has a tolling statute, K.R.S. §413.310, which provides: "The time of a confinement of the plaintiff in the penitentiary shall not be counted as part of the period limited for the commencement of an action."

The Sixth Circuit has recognized the validity of this tolling statute as being available for use by Kentucky state prisoners bringing §1983 actions. See Cunningham v. Jones, 567 F.2d 653, 654 n. 2 (6th Cir. 1977), and Kirby v. Thomas, 336 F.2d 462 (6th Cir. 1964). The Sixth Circuit has also recognized the validity and application of other similar tolling statutes to prisoners' §1983 actions. See Austin v. Brammer, 555 F.2d 142 (6th Cir. 1977) (per curiam) (Ohio).

Since the plaintiff was incarcerated throughout the time period prior to his filing of his lawsuit, this court concludes that the applicable Kentucky one year statute of limitations was tolled during the time of plaintiff's incarceration.

The panel unanimously agrees that oral argument is not necessary in this appeal. Rule 34(a), Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure. The district court's judgment is, accordingly, eversed. Rule 9(d)4, Rules of the Sixth Circuit.

ENTERED BY ORDER OF THE COURT

Clerk P. Kelewany

# IN THE UNITED STATED DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY

### AT LOUISVILLE

EARL MILES BUCHANAN,

Plaintiff,

v.

CIVIL ACTION

COUNTY OF JEFFERSON, et al,

Defendants.

No. C 82-0623 L(A)

# MEMORANDUM OPINION

This action is submitted to the Court on the defendant's motion for summary judgment. The plaintiff has responded to the motion. Because we believe that this action is ruled by <a href="Carmicle v. Weddle">Carmicle v. Weddle</a>, 555 F.2d 554, 555 (6th Cir. 1977), we grant the defendants' motion.

This prisoner action was filed <u>pro se</u> and in forma pauperis by Earl Miles Buchanan. It alleges that Buchanan was maliciously and falsely arrested by the defendants in deprivation of his rights under the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution. The action was filed in September of 1982 under 42 U.S.C. Sec. 1983.

The arrest complained of occurred in January of 1981 and the charges were dismissed in June of 1981. Plaintiff was in prison most of the intervening time on an unrelated charge.

The defendants plead probable cause and the statute of limitations. Because the statute had run well before the filing of the complaint, we need not consider the issue of probable cause.

Actions filed under Sec. 1983 have no "internal" limita-

tions by statute; they must rely instead on state actions to which they are most closely analogous. Carmicle, supra; Mason v. Owens-Illinois, Inc., 517 F.2d 520, 521 (5th Cir. 1975). This complaint clearly alleges wrongs closely akin to malicious prosecution and false arrest, and would be so construed in state court. The question then remains only whether the action was filed timely, i.e., when the cause accrued, whether it was tolled, and when it was filed.

The present cause of action accrued at the very latest when the last charges were dropped. Farris v. Sears Roebuck & Co., 415 F.Supp. 594 (W.D. Ky. 1976). In this case that date was June 24, 1981.

The Sixth Circuit has never recognized tolling of Sec. 1983 actions for those in prison or otherwise institutionalized. CF. Kenney v. Killian, 232 F.2d 288 (6th Cir. 1955). Since the actic was not filed until over a year after the accrual of the cause of action, the one year Kentucky malicious prosecution limitation section bars this Sec. 1983 action. Ky. Rev. Stat. Sec. 413.140(1)(c).

Wherefore, the motion for summary judgment must be granted. An order to this effect is today entered.

Dated 2-11-83

Charles M. Allen, Chief Judge

cc: Counsel of Record

5a

4-13

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY

# AT LOUISVILLE

EARL MILES BUCHANAN,
Plaintiff,

v.
CIVIL ACTION
COUNTY OF JEFFERSON, et al,
Defendants.

C 82-0623 L(A)

# SUMMARY JUDGMENT

The defendant, having moved for summary judgment, and the plaintiff, having responded, and the Court, being fully advised in the premises,

IT IS ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the defendant's motion be and it is hereby sustained, and the action dismissed with prejudice.

.This is a final and appealable judgment and there is no just cause for delay.

Dated 2-11-83

Charles M. Allen

Chief Judge

cc: Counsel of Record

### UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY LOUISVILLE DIVISION

EARL MILES BUCHANAN.

PLAINTIFF

-VS-

CIVIL ACTION NO. C 82-0623-L(A)

DET. CHESER, DET. HALL,
SGT. W. HOWARD, DET. TANGEL,
LT. SPELLMAN, DET. JCNES,
COUNTY OF JEFFERSON,
DEFENDANTS

# MOTION FOR DISCOVERY

Comes the plaintiff, Earl Miles Buchanan, without counsel and moves the court pursuant to the authority of Rule 26 Faderal Rules of Civil Procedure for the issuance of an order to the defendants for the production, inspection and copying of the documents listed or requested below, and serve a copy of each to the plaintiff all the evidence as more particularly described below.

(1) Copies of the pictures taken during the lineups and transcripts of the tape recordings from the lineup held on January 14, 1981 concerning the robbery charge that the plaintiff was arrested on. The names and addresses of all persons that participated in the lineup. The names of the police officers that conducted the lineup, and the names of any attorney that was present at the police station before or during the lineups.

- (2) A copy of the transcripts of the taped confession that the defendants played during the incommunicado interrogation of the plaintiff, whom the plaintiff later learned that the taped confession was made by Kevin Standford.
- (3) Copies of the documents, reports filed in connection with the investigation and search of the resident at 3703 West Kentucky Street, Louisville, Kentucky 40211, and copies of the documents listing precisely what the defendants seized during the search.
- (4) A transcribed copy of affiant Det. Tangel's sworn statement that supplied the probable cause for the search of the resident named in the warrant, more particularly described as (3703 West Kentucky Street). Copies of all arrest and search warrants applied for by the Jefferson County Police Department on January 14, 1981 in the Jefferson District or Circuit Court of Jefferson County, Kentucky.
- (5) Copy of the transcripts of the perliminary hearing held on February 5, 1981 in the case-stlyed Commonwealth of Kentucky v.

  Earl M. Buchanan NO. 81F000380A in the District Court Jefferson Co.,

  Hall of Justice, 600 West Jefferson Street, Louisville, Kentucky 40202.
- (6) Copies of the transcripts of the lineup viewed by the witnesses McCrecklin and Southard where they made a poitive identification of the two suspects on/or about the 30th day of December 1980. Copies of the photo-packs taken of the lineup, any and all statements, reports, papers, documents, tangible objects and information of any form relating to the above styled robbery case concerning the Food Mart on third street that was robbed on/or about the 23 day of December 1980, including a transcript of the perliminary hearing held on the above case.

(7) The names and addresses of the persons that participated in the lineup, including the police officers that conducted the lineup and made the arrest of the two suspects during the month of December 1980.

WHEREFORE, the plaintiff respectfully request that the relief sought in the motion be in all respects granted.

Respectfully submitted,

Earl Miles Buchanan, Plaintiff Box 128 Eddyville, Kentucky 42038

# CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that a copy of the motion for Discovery has been mailed this 26th day of November 1982, to Hon. N. Scott Lilly, Assistant Jefferson County Attorney, 621 West Main Street, Louisville, Kentucky 40202, and Hon William T. Warner, Attorney at law, Nold, Mosley, Clare, Hubbard & Rogers, Fifth Floor, Hart Block Building, 730 West Main Street, Louisville, Kentucky 40202.

Earl Miles Buchanan, Plaintiff Box 128 Eddyville, Kentucky 42038

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY LOUISVILLE DIVISION

EARL MILES BUCHANAN.

PLAINTIFF

VS.

COUNTY OF JEFFERSON, DET. CHESER, DET. HALL SGT W. HOWARD, DET. TANGEL, LT. SPELLMAN, DET. JONES,

DEFENDANTS

CIVIL ACTION NO. C 82-0623-L(A)

# RESPONSE TO MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

Comes the plaintiff, Earl M. Buchanan, Pro Se, and for his response to the defendants motion for summary judgment states as follows;

The first and foremost reason summary judgment should not be granted to the defendants is that the robbery of the short stop food mart at 8811 old third street Road, Louiville, Kentucky that the defendants contends supplied probable cause for the plaintiff's arrest.

Both perpetrator's of the robbery were positively identified by the witnesses on/or about December 30, 1980 at a line up held at the Jefferson County Police Department, further the witnesses identified the suspects at a hearing in the Jefferson district Court, Hall of Justice, 600 West Jefferson Street, Louisville, Kentucky 40202.

The defendants during the lineup would not let either of the two attorneys of plaintiff's brother into the room where the defendants and witnesses were.

One the the attorneys requested to be present with the defendants and witnesses during the lineup, but the defendants would not let the attorney enter the room.

In the plantiff's case there is no probable cause present that he committed the allege robbery, since two weeks before he was arrested the robbery case was closed due to the fact that the perpetrator's of the crime were identified by the witnesses on December 30, 1980. Obviously such information could not constitute probable cause for the plaintiff's arrest.

# ARGUMENT I DEFENDANTS HAD NO PROBABLE CAUSE TO ARREST THE PLAINTIFF, THUS MAKING THEM LIABLE UNDER 42 U.S.C. SEC. 1983 FOR DEPRIVATION OF LIFE, LIBERTY & PROPERTY

At 2:00 a.m. on January 14, 1981 the defendants came to plaintiff's resident with a warrant for the arrest of plaintiff's brother Calvin Buchanan, after seeing plaintiff sleeping in the some room, defendants forced plaintiff out of bed at gun point.

First it should be noted that the allege robbery charge that the defendants contends supplied the probable cause for the arrest of plaintiff was closed on December 30, 1980 after the perpetrator's of the crime were arrested and identified by the witnesses. The plaintiff was arrested on January 14, 1981.

It is well settled that an arrest which is made without a warrant is not violative of the constitution only if "at the moment the arrest was made, the officers hed probable cause to make it - whether at that moment the facts and circumstances within their knowledge and of which they had reasonable trustworthy information were sufficient to warrant a prudent man in believing that the "person arrest" had committed or was committing an offense. In Pierson v. Ray, 386 U.S. 547, 87 S. Ct.1213 (1967) the Supreme Court refers to; "The defense of good faith and probable cause" available to a police officer under sec. 1983, there is no suggestion that a police officer is entitled to a defense of good faith when he makes an arrest without a warrant and without probable cause. In the plaintiff's case he contends that the facts at page 2 of the defendants memorandum in support of Summary judgment were not within their knowledge at the time of the plaintiff's arrest. the simple fact is that on the sparse information at the officers command, no arrest warrant could have issued. Jones v. United States, 362 U.S. 257 (1960) the Supreme Court held; To hold that an officer may act in his own, unchecked discretion upon information too vague and from too untested a source to

permit a judicial officer to accept it as probable cause for an arrest warrant, would subvert this fundamental policy.

In the plaintiff's case the quantum of information came about after the plaintiff's arrest. Giordenell v. United States, 357 U.S. 480 (1958), The Supreme Court stated that;

> The history of the use, and not infrequent abuse, of the power to arrest cautions that a relazation of the fundamental requirements of probable cause would "leave law-abiding citizens at the merey of the officers whim or caprice.

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# CONCLUSION

THEREFORE, the plaintiff for the foregoing reasons submitted herein, plaintiff request that the defendants motion for summary judgment be denied.

The plaintiff is entitled to a Grial by jury on the issues setforth in his complaint. the plaintiff has submitted his motion for trial by jury with his response.

Respectfully submitted,

Earl M. Buchanan, Flaintii Box 128 Eddyville, Kentucky 42038

# CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing response to summary judgment and motion for trial by jury has been mailed to the Hon. N. Scott Lilly, Assistant County Attorney, 621 West
Main Street, Louisville, Kentucky 40202, and Hon. William T.
Warner, Nold, Mosley, Clare, Hubbard & Rogers, Fifth Floor,
Hart Block Building, Louisville, Kentucky 40202. Mailed this 2 and day
of February 1943

Earl M. Buchanan, Plaintiff Box 128 Eddyville, Kentucky 42038